

Sudan government talks continue

KHARTOUM (R) — Consultations on forming a new coalition cabinet in Sudan went into their fifth day on Sunday amid conflicting reports on progress so far. Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi asked the Supreme Council on May 13 to sack his year-old government because of its failure to improve the economy and bring order to the country. The five-man council, acting as collective head of state, was asked to request six days later and asked Mr. Mahdi to mandate senior civil servants to run the country pending a new administration. Sudanese Al Ayam daily quoted an official source on Sunday as saying consultations were almost complete and a new government would be formed within 48 hours. But another daily, Al-Sayasa, said a new cabinet was unlikely before next month. Mr. Mahdi himself was quoted in one newspaper as saying he saw no obstacle to prevent the formation of a new cabinet before the approaching end of Ramadan. Mr. Mahdi's Umma Party and the Democratic Unionist Party were major partners in the outgoing coalition and expected to continue their alliance in a new government.

Jordan Times

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Weinberger: Gulf needs more forces

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said Sunday more war ships and airplanes may be needed in the Gulf to protect Western interests there. "We believe the objective of keeping the shipping open, keeping the access to the oilfields open, not only for ourselves but for our allies, is a vital objective," Mr. Weinberger said on a television interview. To accomplish this, "there should be air cover there should be enough ships to protect the commercial ships they are escorting," he said. But he said this did "not necessarily" mean an increase in U.S. forces. More U.S. forces would not be needed if America's allies helped out, he said. He denied that a commitment to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers meant a major increase in U.S. involvement in the Gulf region. Saudi Arabia is already helping to provide air cover for oil shipments, and the navies of Britain and France have ships in the region, he noted in another television interview. "It is not in any sense inconceivable that we would have a substantial sharing of the total burden. We have a good bit of it now," he said.

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Car blast kills 1 in Tyre

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Explosive planted in a private car in this South Lebanese port city killed the owner and wounded three women on Sunday, police said. They said the blast occurred when the owner was getting into the vehicle. It also caught three women strolling along Tyre's waterfront area. About 40 people have been killed in at least 12 major bomb attacks in various parts of Lebanon this year.

PLO chairman in Mauritania

BANJUL (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat flew into Mauritania Saturday night for talks with President Mohammed Maouya Ould Sid Ahmad Taya. Nouakchott Radio reported Sunday. The radio, monitored in Banjul, quoted Mr. Arafat as telling reporters on arrival that he would brief Mr. Taya on last month's Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers.

Israeli panel drafts Pollard report

TEL AVIV (R) — Members of parliament investigating Israel's role in the Jonathan Pollard spy affair met Sunday to complete a long-awaited report on the Washington scandal. Israel Radio said the six committee members planned to spend up to three nights at an undisclosed location until they completed a report aimed at finding who bore political responsibility for the affair. Abba Eban, committee chairman, planned to hold a news conference after submitting the report on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Lebanese groups condemn abrogation of pact with PLO

ALEY, Lebanon (R) — Lebanese leftist groups have joined Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) factions in condemning an annulment of a pact that gave the PLO military rights in the South Lebanon. Forty-five of the 84 remaining members of Lebanon's parliament passed a law on Thursday annulling the 1969 Cairo agreement which gave the PLO military privileges in South Lebanon and the right to attack Israel from there. Speakers from the main Druze militia and the Communist Party criticised the annulment at a rally Saturday night in support of anti-Israel fighters at Aley, southeast of Beirut.

Only 24% of Americans think Reagan telling truth

NEW YORK (AP) — Only 24 per cent of Americans believe President Ronald Reagan is telling the truth when he denies knowing that money from arms sales to Iran went to help the Nicaraguan rebels, according to a new poll. The 24 per cent figure was down from 31 per cent two weeks earlier. Fifty-nine per cent said he was lying, according to the New York Times-CBS News poll published Sunday. The telephone poll of 1,343 adults taken Monday through Thursday showed that 43 per cent said the congressional hearings into the matter were producing new information and 42 per cent said they had "only been for show."

INSIDE

- Kuwaiti reliance on superpowers is at odds with GCC, page 2
- Jordan marks Independence Day today, page 3
- A futuristic oil megaproject, by Waleed Sa'di, page 4
- The African connection — black and white in Brazil, page 5
- China's Yang wins world badminton title, page 6
- Qadhafi warns of industrial collapse, page 7
- Ousted Fijian premier refuses to join interim council, page 8

Jordanian and Saudi leaders review efforts to convene Arab summit

King Hussein, Prince Mohammad, Prince Abdullah and senior officials perform Umra

Combined agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein and King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia held talks Sunday evening on means to settle inter-Arab differences in preparations for convening the 13th Arab summit in Riyadh.

The two leaders talks in Mecca also covered their recent efforts aimed at reconciling Arab countries, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. Both monarchs have been seeking to reconcile Syria and Iraq which are at odds since 1979. Also, King Fahd is mediating Moroccan-Algerian differences over Western Sahara. The Saudi monarch brought together President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria and King Hassan of Morocco in a summit on the Algerian-Moroccan border on May 4. Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi said recently that most Arab countries had agreed to convene the 13th Arab summit, which had been delayed due to inter-Arab differences since 1983, and that the gathering of Arab heads of state could take place before the end of this year.

Thousands of Kurds join Iraqi forces to fight against Iranians

RAWANDUZ, Iraq (R) — Thousands of Kurds in Rawanduz, a mountainous town near the Iranian border in Iraqi Kurdistan, have joined special militias to help Iraq in its six-year-old war against Iran, officials said Sunday. Town Governor Abdul Wahid Husameddin told reporters about a third of its 23,000 people had enlisted in "light battalions" to fight the Iranians and anti-government Kurdish forces. Tebran Radio claimed two days ago that Kurdish rebels had captured Rawanduz, but Mr. Husameddin said there had been no fighting in the area. He denied that Iranian-backed rebels had any influence there. The reporters, flown by army helicopter to the town 250 kilometres northeast of Baghdad and 30 kilometres from the Iranian border, saw hundreds of young Kurds protecting Rawanduz from all sides.

The town is linked to the outside world only by one asphalt road leading to Erbil, capital of the autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan, 70 kilometres to the south. Mr. Husameddin dismissed Iranian claims that Kurdish rebels had captured eight Iraqi military posts around the nearby town of Kormal and that public strikes had closed shops in the area. "The people of Rawanduz are fighting the saboteurs and more than 7,000 have joined the light battalions to fight the Iranian aggressors and their agents," he said. Most shops in the town were open on Sunday and filled with goods. One volunteer, Zihar Hamad Rasoul, who carried a rifle and had hand grenades attached to his belt, told reporters: "I joined the light battalions to fight the Iranian enemy and protect my town and Kurdistan against the Iranians and their agents."

Lieutenant-General Tali' Khalil Al Douri, commander of Iraq's First Army Corps, said the military did not need an intensive presence in the area because it was protected by the Kurds themselves. He denied that any major clashes had taken place in the region of Rawanduz in the past few months.

"Highwaymen opening fire on a passenger car or a mountain bus at midnight does not mean that Kurdish saboteurs are in control of the area," he told the reporters at his headquarters near Erbil. Gen. Douri said large numbers of Kurdish rebels had surrendered to the government.

Abdul Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defence and civil aviation, Interior Minister Nayer Ibn Abdul Aziz, Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal and Information Minister Ali Al Shaer.

Earlier, the King and the delegation accompanying him joined worshippers in ceremonies marking Lailat Al Qadr (Night of Destiny) — the night between the 26th and 27th of Ramadan when, according to Sura 97, the Holy Koran was revealed, and performed the Umra pilgrimage. The delegation accompanying the King also includes Chief Islamic Justice Mohammad Mheilan and several senior officials.

The King was seen off from Amman airport by His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Oaseim, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and other senior officials. Upon his arrival at Jeddah airport, the King was greeted by Prince Majid Ibn Abdul Aziz, governor of Mecca, and senior Saudi Arabian officials.

Mr. Peres has promised to support Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc against efforts by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to call early elections on the issue, but his return to the cabinet was not opposed by Mr. Peres' Labour Party. Mr. Shamir has opposed Mr. Peres' proposal to convene an international Middle East peace conference and both have sought support from religious parties. Mr. Peres is about four votes short of the necessary 61 majority in the 120-seat Knesset to call elections over the conference question.

The return of Rabbi Peretz as minister without portfolio is subject to parliamentary approval. He said he would rejoin the cabinet last week after the Likud promised to make concessions on religious issues. The Shas Party holds four seats in the Knesset. Rabbi Peretz resigned as interior minister earlier this year in protest over a court ruling that ordered him to recognise the non-orthodox reform conversion to Judaism of U.S.-born Shoshana Miller as grounds for Israeli citizenship.

Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein on Wednesday handed a letter of resignation to the cabinet after announcing last week that he was leaving the government because he opposed concessions to religious parties. It was not immediately clear who would replace Mr. Rubinstein, the leader of the three-seat Shinui Party which is closely aligned to the Labour Party.

The United States, the Soviet



His Majesty King Hussein leaves for Saudi Arabia on Sunday accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and several other senior officials (Petra photo)

Israeli cabinet accepts Peretz' return

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's coalition government on Sunday accepted the return to the cabinet of Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz whose small religious Shas Party could help resolve the deadlock over an international Middle East peace conference.

Rabbi Peretz has promised to support Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc against efforts by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to call early elections on the issue, but his return to the cabinet was not opposed by Mr. Peres' Labour Party.

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The United States, the Soviet

Israeli stabbed in Gaza City

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An Israeli man was stabbed while shopping in occupied Gaza on Sunday and the Israeli army said it detained nine Arabs for questioning.

An army spokesman said attackers stabbed the man while he was shopping in the town's main Palestine square. He was lightly wounded.

The army said a kitchen knife apparently used in the attack was found at a nearby petrol station. Eight store owners and the petrol station owner were detained for questioning while Israeli soldiers closed off the area, the army said.

Also in Gaza, an Arab passenger in a car died when a bomb he was allegedly carrying exploded. The driver, an Israeli Arab woman who escaped injury, was being held for questioning, the army said.

Last year three Israelis were killed and another wounded in

Israeli stabbed in Gaza City

Gaza, igniting angry anti-Palestinian protests by Israeli settlers. On Friday, Israeli troops killed a Palestinian who allegedly detonated a roadside bomb.

On Saturday, enraged Palestinians burned an Israeli car after its driver ran over and killed a seven-year-old Arab boy in Gaza City.

Meanwhile, the army also moved reinforcements into Jerusalem's Old City overnight after Palestinians attacked military vehicles outside the city's walls, Israel Radio said.

Demonstrations erupted during night-long Ramadan religious ceremonies in the Old City and police used teargas to disperse hundreds of Arabs hurling stones and bottles at the vehicles.

The radio said police detained dozens of demonstrators. In the occupied West Bank town of Jenin, police said they believed Arabs were responsible

for the shooting on Monday of Hassan Lahouch, 30, a cousin of the Palestinian mayor. He was shot twice in the head.

In another developments, leaders of Israel's Arab minority decided at an emergency meeting Saturday to launch a general strike to protest economic and social discrimination, an Arab mayor said.

"I hope these things will be stopped before they reach the level of revolt," Samir Darwish, mayor of the town of Baka Al Gharbiya, said in an interview. Mr. Darwish said the strike would be formally announced on May 31. During the strike, which he said would be of "unlimited duration," Arab workers would not leave their homes for work in the Jewish sector, and all Arab municipalities, schools and businesses would be closed.

(Continued on page 3)

Senator says U.S. hopes to exclude Soviets from Gulf protection force

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A U.S. senator probing the missile attack on the USS Stark said Sunday after visiting the crippled frigate that Washington hopes the Soviet Union would be excluded from a proposed force to protect navigation in the troubled Gulf region.

Sen. James Sasser told a news conference Britain, France and other "traditional purchasers of Gulf oil" should commit units to the force, which was proposed after the May 17 Iraqi attack in which 37 American sailors were killed.

"I would say the United States would be willing to participate with other nations to guarantee the right of free passage in the Gulf," said Mr. Sasser. "I never, we would at this juncture anyway wish to circumscribe our cooperation and would hope that the maritime action force would consist exclusively at this stage of our British allies and also the French."

The United States, the Soviet

Union, Britain and France have warships patrolling the Gulf to protect commercial vessels flying their flags from Iraqi and Iranian attacks.

Iran and Iraq, at war since September 1980, have been attacking vessels in the strategic waterway in a so-called tanker war, an offshoot of the Gulf war.

Mr. Sasser, an opposition Democrat who arrived Friday, said the proposed force also would include contingents from "those nations that have had a traditional interest in the Gulf states, and with those nations with which the Gulf states themselves have traditionally been comfortable and have traditionally exercised open and friendly relations."

"The Soviet Union is not a traditional purchaser of oil from the Gulf," the Tennessee senator said. He spoke after a visit to the ill-fated frigate, anchored three nautical miles off Bahrain.

The senator met aboard the

Stark with its captain, Commander Glenn Brindel, and Admiral Grant Sharp, who heads a 10-man U.S. navy team investigating the attack.

The navy's probe has focused on the possibility a failure in the Phalanx anti-missile system aboard the Stark kept the crew from knowing that an Iraqi warplane had fired missiles at the ship.

U.S. navy officials in Bahrain first denied that the computer system that runs the Phalanx was faulty, then refused to comment further on the matter. Asked about this issue, Sen. Sasser said: "I determined that this was a matter which for the present time might best be left to a court of inquiry."

This, he said, was "simply because what I perceive to be some confusion as to what has occurred aboard" after the missiles struck.

Mr. Sasser is one of three U.S. senators appointed by majority

(Continued on page 3)

Weizman assails Kissinger for rejecting Mideast conference

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Cabinet minister Ezer Weizman on Sunday called former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger "an aging prima donna" for rejecting a proposal to convene a Middle East peace conference.

Speaking to reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting, Mr. Weizman, a minister without portfolio, said: "I have a clear assessment that if (Mr. Kissinger) were involved, he would make an international conference here and now."

"But he has not been involved for 10 years already. He only writes books and gives lectures ... to a certain degree, with all the affection I have for him, he is a bit of an aging prima donna."

Dr. Kissinger last week told the Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations in New York that without clear understandings of procedure and agenda, an U.N.-sponsored Middle East conference would not be in Israel's best interests.

He cited the brief remaining tenure of the Reagan administration as a reason for not pursuing a peace conference.

Aquino foes seek to stage repeat of 1986 revolt

MANILA (R) — Fifteen thousand right-wing opponents of President Corazon Aquino urged Philippine soldiers on Sunday to come out of their barracks and overthrow her.

"Come out of the camps and join us, Cory, step down. Lei (former Defence Secretary Juan Ponce) Enrile run the country," protesters shouted through loudspeakers at soldiers in Manila's two main military camps.

The demonstrators had answered a call from the Grand Alliance for Democracy (GAD), the main right-wing opposition grouping, to gather at the site of Mrs. Aquino's greatest political triumph.

They filled the Edsa (Epifanio De los Santos) highway in front of the camps. In February 1986 hundreds of thousands of Filipinos gathered there to back a military revolt that ousted Ferdinand Marcos and put Mrs. Aquino in power.

Mr. Enrile, whom Mrs. Aquino dismissed because of his links with alleged plotters of

coups against her, was greeted with a great roar of support when he mounted a makeshift stage to wave to the crowd.

Organisers said the demonstration was meant to seek army support for the right's allegations of massive fraud in May 11 congressional elections. Candidates from both right and left were vanquished by Mrs. Aquino's supporters in the poll.

But a series of speakers quickly moved beyond this aim with the encouragement of the crowd. "The so-called February 1986 revolt was not a revolution but a picnic," said defeated lower-house candidate Chito Lucero. "This is the real revolution. We will not leave this place until Cory Aquino steps down."

Many in the crowd had brought food and water, blankets and mats and said they would not leave Sunday.

"Those who are here will stay here until the government surrenders," said Francisco Tatad, a spokesman for the GAD and a former Marcos minister.

British Labour slowly eroding Conservative lead

LONDON (R) — Britain's main opposition Labour Party has made slight but steady inroads on the lead given Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's ruling Conservatives by early opinion polls in the runup to the June 11 general election.

As Mrs. Thatcher bids for a record-breaking third consecutive term in office, a Harris poll for the independent TV-AM network showed her party ahead with 42 per cent against Labour's 36 and 21 per cent for the centrist Liberal-Social Democrat Alliance.

Translated into parliamentary terms, it would give Mrs. Thatcher a 36-seat majority compared with the 140-seat margin she had after the 1983 election.

Another Harris poll on Sunday for Independent Television's "Weekend World" showed Labour leading the Conservatives in key marginal seats where the present candidate had only a small majority in the last election. In seats where Labour came a close second last time, 41 per cent

polled said they would vote Labour compared with only 39 per cent for the Conservatives and 19 for the Alliance.

Translated into parliamentary seats and combined with the nationwide picture, this would give Mrs. Thatcher a mere two-seat majority in the next parliament.

Apart from the Harris findings, opinion polls have consistently shown the Conservatives leading by between seven and 14 per cent, with Labour second and the Alliance steadily losing ground in third place.

Political commentators said Labour's decision to concentrate its campaign on the personality of party leader Neil Kinnock had undoubtedly paid off.

But they pointed out that Mrs. Thatcher, who only spent one day campaigning last week, would launch her main effort this week.

U.S. to withdraw all defences from Britain if Labour wins elections, page 8

Sheikh Jaber: Iran-Iraq war spreading to involve big powers

KUWAIT (R) — The ruler of Kuwait, who is seeking superpower protection for its vital oil exports, says the Iran-Iraq war is spreading and this is cause for international concern.

"The war has extended even to the big powers," the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, said in an address Saturday night marking the approaching end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

In a bid to stave off Iranian attacks on its shipping, Kuwait has chartered three Soviet tankers — which have Soviet naval escorts — and wants to sail half its own 22-tanker fleet under the American flag to gain U.S. naval protection. Britain and France also have warships in the waterway.

"The sparks of the Gulf war are currently spreading and the pain and risks of the war are no longer limited to those directly responsible," the emir said.

"It has threatened the freedom of international navigation and has come out of its local framework to become an international concern," he added.

The emir's declaration was Kuwait's first on Gulf shipping since the U.S. frigate Stark was crippled by Iraqi aircraft on May 17, leaving 37 sailors dead. Baghdad said the missile attack was a mistake.

The attack fuelled concern in the U.S. Congress over American oil policy in the Gulf and plans of Kuwait and the Reagan administration to re-register Kuwaiti tankers under U.S. colours.

The American Senate voted 91-5 on Thursday to block the deal until the administration compiled a full report on just how the

reflagged tankers would be protected.

The United States maintains seven medium-sized warships in the Gulf and Tehran, has recently installed heavy, long-range anti-ship missiles along its coast, has warned it would not hesitate to strike at the refuelled tankers.

Tehran has stepped up attacks on shipping associated with Kuwait in retaliation for Iraqi strikes on Iranian vessels and the emirate's support for the Baghdad government.

One of the Soviet tankers under charter to Kuwait has already been hit by a drifting mine near Kuwait.

Another Soviet ship, a freighter, was also attacked recently by Iranian Revolutionary Guards firing small rocket-propelled grenades from high-speed launches.

To another Gulf emirate, Bahrain, members of a U.S. Senate team were arriving to assess the safety of American shipping in the Gulf following the attack on the frigate, which is anchored there.

Two more congressional teams are expected in Bahrain in the coming week, while a U.S. navy board of inquiry is investigating how the Iraqi projectiles penetrated the frigate's anti-missile defence systems.

"The peace we call for in the Gulf is the same peace we call for Lebanon and Afghanistan through national unity and free will, independent decision and cooperation," the emir said.



Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah

"We (the Islamic World) should be among those presenting peace," said Sheikh Jaber who, with Kuwait as current chairman of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference, ranks as symbolic head of the Muslim World.

He said the Palestinian movement had moved towards unity of will and decision which needed the support of Arab solidarity.

He urged his country of 1.7 million people, lying within earshot of the Gulf war and the target of a spate of bombings in recent years, most apparently the work of pro-Iranian sympathisers, to remain steadfast.

He voiced confidence the emirate would overcome its difficulties.

The emir, who last July dissolved the National Assembly and several articles of the constitution because of what he called security and economic crises, spoke of renewed confidence in the oil-reliant economy.

He attributed this to close coordination by the government and private sector, which he said must be sustained in a programme based on prudent spending.

In Dubai, a senior official of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) called on big powers to help protect shipping in the waterway.

Saif Al Muskari, the GCC's assistant secretary-general for political affairs, told Al Bayan newspaper that attack on the Stark and the mine incident involving the Soviet tanker constituted a dangerous new turning point in the Iran-Iraq war.

"The responsibility for protecting navigation in international waters does not fall only on the GCC countries but is a joint responsibility between Gulf states and states with interests in the region, especially the big powers," he said.

The UAE paper Al Khaleej, meanwhile, sharply attacked the GCC for not doing enough on its own to protect shipping.

"What is astonishing is that the two superpowers, and other states from East and West, are talking about the security and future of the Gulf while the only silence is from the GCC, which is supposed to reflect the demands and hopes of its peoples," the paper said.

"The GCC states have spent billions on arms but what is the role of these arms if not to guarantee stability and security and keep out the superpowers and their plans?" it asked.

The GCC includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman in an economic and defence grouping.

Gas tank still blazes at Kuwait's Ahmadi port

KUWAIT (AP) — Tongues of flame and thick palls of smoke spiralled skyhigh Sunday from a gas container at Kuwait's Ahmadi key oil export terminal, and knowledgeable diplomatic sources blamed it on unidentified saboteurs.

A major salvage operation was underway, and Interior Ministry officials said the fire has been largely contained after raging for three days.

The gas was being flared away but the danger of the fire spreading was arrested earlier in the day, the officials said.

The extent of damage was not immediately known. A ministerial committee comprising the ministers of oil, defence, interior, public health, municipal affairs and electricity and water has been created to supervise salvage operations, examine motives and implications of the blaze.

The fire broke out Friday night at petroleum gas tank no. 406 at Ahmadi, 50 kilometres south of the capital.

The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Abdul Azz Al Rashid, said without elaborating the cabinet in an emergency session Saturday discussed the ramifications of the incident.

Ahmadi, in the southern oil nerve centre of this Gulf Arab state, was declared off limits to visitors after a wave of blasts in the region and in downtown Kuwait in January.

Three blasts rocked the terminal and the adjacent oil field of Magway in January. The same Kuwaiti regions were a target of sabotage blasts last June.

The region is inhabited predominantly by Shi'ite Muslims of whom 16 persons are to be sentenced on June 6 on charges of complicity in perpetrating the blasts. Four of 16 were tried in absentia.

One person was killed in the spate of blasts. A Yemeni office boy was killed when a bomb ripped through a travel bureau in Kuwait's fashionable Fahd Al Sakem Street less than two weeks ago.

"Kuwait has been a particular target of terrorist attacks in recent years, including an attempt on the life of the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. Defendants have mainly been pro-Iranian Shi'ite sympathisers.

Reagan, aides defend policy in Gulf

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has continued defending U.S. policy in the Gulf while a top Defence Department official warned withdrawing the U.S. navy would cause more instability and allow Iran to press into Kuwait.

Following the tragic incident in the Gulf a week ago when 37 crewmen of the USS Stark were killed by an apparently accidental Iraqi missile attack, Mr. Reagan maintained last week that the U.S. naval presence was necessary to keep the war between Iran and Iraq from interfering with the free flow of oil.

"Since 1949 American ships have patrolled in the Gulf, an area that is a vital strategic and economic crossroads for the nations of three continents, an area that in the hands of a hostile power would be a chokepoint of freedom," Mr. Reagan said Saturday in his weekly nationwide radio broadcast.

His remarks were aimed at both the U.S. public, shocked by the Iraqi attack, and at Congress, which has challenged his policy of maintaining U.S. protection for Kuwaiti oil tankers and sales of advanced fighter planes to Saudi Arabia.

Separately, Assistant Secretary of Defence Richard Armitage warned that Iran would take advantage of increased instability in the vital oil shipping lanes of the region without the U.S. presence.

"I think that instability in the Gulf would be rampant," if U.S. naval power were removed, he said Saturday in a television interview.

Mr. Armitage added: "I think the Iraqis would take advantage of it and press that advantage onto Kuwait and perhaps even the Soviet Union."

A joint team from the State and Defence Departments left Saturday for the region to investigate the incident. An 11-member navy board of inquiry was already in the region and three congressional delegations are on the way.

Their goals are to find out whether the attack by an Iraqi Mirage F-1 jet that fired two Exocet missiles into the frigate was indeed accidental as asserted by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and how the sophisticated defences on the frigate failed to protect it.

Administration officials have said the attack was a mistake but investigators will attempt to interview the Iraqi pilot.

Mr. Reagan has announced the United States plans to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Gulf by bringing them under U.S. flag.

But this has been challenged by Congress. The Senate voted last week to require him to provide a full report on his plans for protection of U.S. and allied forces in the region before the Kuwaiti protection plan can be carried out.

In addition, the incident has caused congressional challenges to a pending sale of 12 F-15s to Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Reagan also proclaimed May 25, memorial day, as a national day of mourning for the fallen Stark crew.

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Stark attack raises question whether surface fleets can survive combat

By Charles Aldinger
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The damaging blow dealt to a \$300-million U.S. frigate by some \$250,000 Iraqi Exocet missiles in the Gulf has raised again the question of whether surface fleets can survive combat in the age of "smart" weapons.

Military experts say surface combat vessels are still necessary but they told Reuters that warships like the USS Stark, designed to fight aircraft and other ships, are in many cases very vulnerable to surprise attack.

The Stark, part of a six-ship U.S. force patrolling to safeguard freedom of navigation near the Iran-Iraq war zone, bristled with defensive electronics, anti-missile missiles and a 3,000-round-a-minute Gatling gun designed to shoot down incoming missiles.

The ship was nonetheless put out of action and 37 sailors were killed on May 17 when two Exocets, unleashed by accident by an Iraqi jet, hit just above the waterline.

The French-made missiles, fired from 19 kilometres away, hit the frigate in less than 90 seconds. Captain Glenn Brindel said the Stark was not aware of an attack until a lookout spotted a 15-foot (five-metre) Exocet at wavetop level in the final seconds.

The ship's guns and missiles

were silent as the Exocets struck, starting fires that burned for more than 24 hours.

Iraq, apologising, said the pilot thought he was firing at an Iranian target in the 6 1/2-year-old Gulf war.

"The Exocet is pretty good, but it is not the best. If we can't stop that missile, think what Soviet state-of-the-art stuff with much bigger warheads can do," said Ronald O'Rourke, chief naval analyst for the Congressional Research Service.

The two Exocets, of the type that Argentina used to wreak havoc upon the British navy in the 1982 Falklands war, were apparently carried aloft on an Iraqi F-1 fighter bomber shortly after 9 p.m. Gulf time on May 17.

The plane was spotted by a U.S. Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) plane based in Saudi Arabia and was tracked by both the radar plane and the Stark as it flew south off the coast of Saudi Arabia and turned toward the Stark.

The ship's standard-I missiles, which can be fired at attacking aircraft, ships or missiles, were never fired at the incoming Exocets.

Stark's MK-36 "Super Chaffroc," designed to throw out clouds of metal chaff around the ship and confuse the radar homing devices of attacking weapons, was never engaged.

Capt. Brindel and navy officials say if the Phalanx gun had been on full automatic, it would have found the missiles by itself and shot them down. The navy shot down three of four approaching Exocets in a 1984 test using a Phalanx mounted on an old destroyer.

"But all this does not get around the fact that these ships become vulnerable in a Third World situation where they are not constantly on a full war alert," said retired navy Rear Admiral Gene La Rocque, director of the private Centre for Defence Information in Washington.

The ship's SPS-49 long-range radar picked up the approaching aircraft from afar and tracked it for 200 miles (320 kilometres) but never detected the missile's separation from the jet, Pentagon

Roles of Casey, Abrams outlined in Iran-contra hearings

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional witnesses have plucked the names of Elliot Abrams and the late William Casey from the shadows of the once-secret contra aid network and portrayed them as playing major roles along with Col. Oliver North.

The same witnesses, however, did not implicate President Ronald Reagan in the solicitation of money for the rebels at a time official U.S. assistance was banned by Congress.

Last week's testimony before the Iran-contra hearings produced a wealth of new information about the involvement of Reagan administration officials in the cloak-and-dagger operation — including more details on Col. North's activities.

"Blood and guts" North, as the former White House aide was called by one witness, was heavily involved in directing the covert operation and was kept fully informed by his courier on the rebels' progress, the hearings were told.

He was part of what a lawmaker called "one-two punch" to act in concert with private fund-raisers to solicit wealthy contributors. Records show he received

traveller's checks from the contras, some of which he cashed for personal items, including snow tires.

Lawmakers heard testimony that Mr. Abrams — assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs — told a former army general, who became a contra fund-raiser, to stop asking two countries for money because the pitch would be handled at the "highest level," meaning the White House.

Former CIA Director Casey was quoted as telling an industrialist and contra contributor that Col. North was "the guy to see" about donations while U.S. government assistance was cut off.

Col. North's courier to the contras, Robert Owen, testified that the former National Security Council aide directed secret air drops and exchanges of envelopes stuffed with cash for the contras. He told of delivering \$30,000 in traveller's checks to as many as 10 rebel leaders.

Contra leader Adolfo Calero testified that in dozens of meetings, "I used to tell Col. North practically everything."

Mr. Casey's role was described by several witnesses.

Mr. Owen said he had the impression that Mr. Casey knew about Col. North's activities, commenting, "there were times when I would be in Col. North's office and he would have phone conversations with the director." Mr. Owen also said he saw Mr. Casey entering or leaving Col. North's office.

Joseph Coors, the Colorado brewery magnate and a contra contributor, said that Mr. Casey told him in June 1985 that "Ollie North's the guy to see" about making a voluntary contribution to the rebels. He also quoted Mr. Casey as saying, "this is the person to go to, to get it done."

Mr. Calero described a close relationship with Mr. Casey, saying he called the late intelligence chief "Uncle Bill."

He testified he met with Mr. Casey five or six times in the past few years, the last time in October 1986.

Mr. Calero said, "we put him up to date on what was going on, and he listened very attentively to everything he said. In return he showed not disgust, but he felt sorry for the fact that they (the CIA) couldn't do anything for us."

Mr. Calero said, "we put him up to date on what was going on, and he listened very attentively to everything he said. In return he showed not disgust, but he felt sorry for the fact that they (the CIA) couldn't do anything for us."

Kuwaiti reliance on superpowers is at odds with GCC

By Rory Channing
Reuters

KUWAIT — Kuwait, turning to the United States and the Soviet Union to ship its oil, appears to some diplomats here to have veered from the stated goal of Gulf Arab states to curb the superpower role in the area.

Western diplomats say the move may stretch the political cohesion of the six-nation Gulf

Cooperation Council (GCC). "I wouldn't be surprised if there are misgivings... I think Saudi Arabia and Bahrain are supportive. I would be astonished if anybody else is," said one senior diplomat.

The GCC also includes Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman, which commands the southern Arab side of the strategic Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf.

The GCC has repeatedly espoused a policy of self-reliance for regional security and stability. Fearful that the Iran-Iraq war, nearly seven years old, would create openings for foreign intervention, they have argued in favour of keeping the superpowers at bay.

But Kuwait modified its policy after Iraq, angered at its backing for Iraq in the war, stepped up attacks on shipping serving the

emirate. This followed an increase in Iraqi efforts to destroy the Iranian oil industry. Kuwait chartered three Soviet tankers, two of which went into service this month. Moscow said they would have naval escorts.

It is also on the verge of transferring 11 of its own 22 tankers to the U.S. flag. The vessels, expected to start sailing soon under American captains, would be protected by U.S. warships.

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17:30 Religious Programme
17:40 Arabic Comedy
18:40 Ramadan Competition
19:10 Religious Programmes
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 A special programme on the occasion of Independence Day
21:30 Prayers from Mecca
22:15 Tomorrow's programme
22:30 Local Series
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic film
23:59 Religious Series

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19:00 News in French
19:15 Sport magazine (French)
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Friday Morning Prayer
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Three Up, Two Down
21:10 Moonlighting
22:00 News in English
22:30 Fair stood the wind for France

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10:00 News Summary
10:05 Just a Minute
11:00 Follow the Wind
12:00 News Summary
12:05 30-Minute Theatre
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Just a Minute
15:00 News Summary
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Men from the Ministry
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Roundup
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star

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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION

* Artistic exhibition including 50 plates, by Jordanian plastic artist, at the National Museum. At exhibition hall, Plaza Hotel. The exhibition runs through Wednesday.

FEATURE FILM

* "Billy Liar" at 8:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the British Council.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6010577
American Centre - 644371
American Centre Library - 641520
British Council - 6361478
French Cultural Centre - 637009
Goethe Institute - 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre - 644233
Spanish Cultural Centre - 620400
Turkish Cultural Centre - 639777
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Hussein Youth City - 6671816
Y.W.C.A. - 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251
Ammann Municipal Library - 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library - 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" - Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaic floor, Madaba and Jerash (6th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qaf' (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munt-

zab, Jabel Lweiddeh. Opening hours:

10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 601022.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman. Tel. 624390.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Lweiddeh. Tel. 637440.

Independence Day: time to reflect on past and prospects

Jordan today celebrates the 41st anniversary of its independence from Britain. Independence came on May 25 1946, fulfilling one of the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt, begun early in this century to achieve liberation and independence for all Arab countries from foreign domination. On the occasion the Jordan News Agency, Petra, issued the following statement outlining Jordan's continued struggle on all fronts to achieve prosperity and serve Arab national causes.

AMMAN (Petra) — The independence anniversary symbolises the most cherished and sublime meanings of dignity and pride, attained through the wise leadership of the Hashemite family's leadership and the struggle of the Jordanian people.

The time of independence coincided with continued Israeli

attempts to usurp Palestine and colonise its land and evict its people. Jordan, acting according to the philosophy of the Great Arab Revolt, undertook continued struggle for liberation of Arab land. The standards of the Great Arab Revolt were handed down to King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, founder of the

Kingdom in 1921. He pursued the struggle until the country won its full independence in 1946.

His grandson, His Majesty King Hussein, was proclaimed King of Jordan on Aug. 11, 1952. He then embarked on building up the country and transforming it into a modern state. King Hussein's policies have been based on the principles of the Great Arab Revolt. His whole life has been dedicated to serving Arab national causes.

In keeping with its nationalistic policies Jordan has sided with Iraq in its war with Iran and backed Syria in the 1973 October war with Israel. In 1968 Jordan engaged the Israelis when their troops launched an aggression on Karameh in the Jordan Valley. Earlier Jordan supported Egypt in the face of the tripartite attack on Suez in 1956.

Jordan continues to confront Israel's aggressive acts and its attempts to evict the Palestinian people from their homeland. In this respect Jordan has worked out an integrated five-year social and economic programme for the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and organised an international conference on the programme in Amman in 1986 in order to enlist support and invite financial backing for this project.

The development programme is designed to improve the living conditions of the Arab population under Israeli rule, build public and social institutions, and boost agricultural, industrial and housing development in territories under Israeli domination.

This project is primarily designed to boost the morale of the Arab population and strengthen their steadfastness in the face of Israel's occupation.

Jordan has been striving on all fronts to convene an international peace conference to bring about a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, and has succeeded in winning world-wide support for the idea.

Jordan's endeavours have acquired backing from the European Community nations which issued a declaration of Feb. 23 this year in Brussels voicing full support for the convening of this proposed conference.

The Palestinian question will no doubt remain of central concern to Jordan and the Jordanian people will continue to strive under the leadership of King Hussein "to help the Palestinian people regain their usurped



H.M. King Hussein; the young King early in his reign

homeland. On the domestic front, Jordan has made great strides towards prosperity since 1946. This country has strengthened its Armed Forces and supplied them with sophisticated weapons for self-defence. A conscription law has been enacted and a people's army formed to provide as many people as possible with military training.

In the fields of education, agriculture, industry, tourism, transport, communications, health, and energy, Jordan has taken important steps. At present the nation is carrying out its third five-year development plan which envisages an investment of JD 3,000 million in various economic and social sectors.

Celebrations are to be held in the Kingdom to mark the occasion; all government departments and public institutions will be closed today. On the eve of the occasion, Jordanian flags, posters, the King's portraits were raised on public places and main squares. Streets and all towns and villages in the Kingdom, have been bedecked with decorative

Meteorology head elected to world body

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Executive Committee of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) has elected Dr. Ali Ahanda, director general of the Meteorological Department in Amman, as one of its 36 members.

The election took place on Thursday during the 10th meeting of the WMO's 156-member general assembly meeting held in Geneva. Dr. Ahanda won membership of the committee in the face of strong competition from candidates from Poland, Switzerland, Norway, Spain and Italy.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Dr. Ahanda won a large majority; the minimum number of votes required for winning is 59.

The WMO's Executive Committee meets at least once a year to prepare studies and recommendations for the WMO's congress. It supervises the implementation of the congress's resolutions and regulations, informs members on technical matters and offers advice.

The WMO started activities and was recognised as a specialised agency of the United Nations in 1951. Its work aims at improving the exchange of weather information and its applications throughout the world.

Symposium to discuss issues of transport

AMMAN (J.T.) — A symposium on the latest advancements in transport and traffic fields is scheduled to be held here on June 7, sponsored by the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan, according to a report published Sunday in the local daily Al Dustour newspaper.

The five-day symposium will be held in cooperation with the American Centre, the British Council, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents, the Public Security Department, Jordan University for Science and Technology and other institutions concerned.

During the seminar specialists from Jordan and from other countries will give lectures on the latest research and technology in transport and traffic.

Cost of living index drops in first quarter of 1987

AMMAN (Petra) — A report by the Department of Statistics revealed that the cost of living index in the Kingdom reached 129.3 in the first third of 1987, against 130.0 in the same period of 1986, thus registering a drop of 0.85.

The report revealed Sunday

that the drop is attributed to a general reduction in the price of foodstuffs at the rate of 2.6 per cent, clothes and shoes 2.2 per cent. But, it said that the cost of other commodities and services rose in this period by 2.6 per cent, while the cost of rent and homes maintained the earlier rate.

PSD director meets with Sudanese army official

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director Abdul Hadi Al Majali conferred in his office Sunday with Mr. Ahmad Yousef, member of a senior committee in charge of organising the Sudanese armed forces.

Mr. Yousef was briefed on the development and organisation of the public security forces and the security system in the Kingdom. Maj. Gen. Sami Saket, PSD assistant director for manpower, was among several senior officers attending the meeting.



Public Security Department (PSD) Director Abdul Hadi Al Majali (left) confers with Mr. Ahmad Yousef, member of a senior committee in charge of organising the Sudanese armed forces (centre) on Sunday. They discussed the organisation of Jordan's public security forces and security system (Petra photo).

Zarqa to carry out road projects

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Municipality will carry out road construction, including asphaltting of roads, building of bridges and road junctions at a cost of JD 1.5 million. The Municipality will also construct pavements, embankments and boundary walls at a cost of JD 200,000.

The agreement to carry out these projects was reached at a meeting between the Zarqa Municipal Council and a special working team from the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment.

The Zarqa mayor discussed with the team the city's development plan and secured its approval of the construction.

The work also includes construction of buildings and public utilities at a cost of JD 325,000, construction of parks and gardens at a cost of JD 325,000 and purchase of vehicles and equipment at a cost of JD 320,000.

The work also includes the construction of stores and offices at a cost of JD 450,000, construction of a library and installation of traffic lights at a cost of JD 750,000.



H.M. King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein in military uniform, 1944

Israeli stabbed in Gaza City

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Darwish told AP the Arab leaders decided to cancel their scheduled June 6 meeting and to hold an emergency session in the northern town of Shfaram.

He said the emergency meeting was called in response to the government decision on university tuition fees, a decision he called "the straw that broke the camel's back."

Earlier this month, the Israeli cabinet voted to make university tuition fees 50 per cent higher for anyone who had not served in the army.

Jewish men and women are drafted for compulsory military duty, but Israeli Arabs are not drafted.

Mr. Darwish said 50 people participated in Saturday's emergency meeting, including five Arab legislators, representatives of the National Council of Arab Municipalities, members of the Committee for Protection of Arab Land and student leaders.

He said leaders of Israel's 700,000-member Arab commun-

ity decided to call for "a continuous strike until all the problems are solved."

"Arab workers will not go to their jobs. This will, of course, affect the Jewish population since many industrial workers and most of the service workers are Arabs," he said.

He said that "in the background is the continuing battle of Arab local councils' heads for budgets equal to those of Jewish towns and the... shortage of classrooms in the Arab sector."

A secretary of the National Council of Arab Municipalities said in an interview this month Arab municipalities received a quarter of a budget allocated to Jewish towns for regular expenses and one-tenth the funds for development.

Nimr Morkof also said that Israeli Arab students studied in 1,400 substandard, overcrowded classrooms which the government was replacing at a rate of 45 per year.

In Um Al Fahm, the largest Israeli Arab town, open sewers run through some streets.

U.S. wants to exclude Soviets

(Continued from page 1)

leader Robert Byrd to tour the Gulf region in the wake of the attack.

The other two senators, John Glenn, Democrat from Ohio, and John Warner, Republican from Virginia, were expected to fly to the region after Mr. Sasser returns to Washington Tuesday.

In statements before he left Washington and when he arrived in Bahrain, Mr. Sasser said he would seek a detailed report of the circumstances surrounding the attack to determine whether any negligence on the part of the captain or the 182-man crew was behind the tragedy.

Mr. Sasser also said he would discuss with navy officials plans to register up to 11 of Kuwait's state-owned oil tankers under the American flag.

Before departing Washington on Friday, the senator said he had grave reservations about the plan, which would give the Kuwaiti tankers the protection of American warships.

Tankers from Kuwait have been a special target of Iran.

Before Mr. Sasser's arrival, the surviving members of the Stark's crew were clearing twisted metal from the frigate's wrecked electronic control centre and placing the debris in large dumpsters on board, said a source close to the investigation.

A U.S. navy source, who demanded anonymity, had no information on reports of a malfunction in the defence system. He spoke in Bahrain after visiting the ship.

Iraq apologised, saying the attack on the frigate was a mistake arising from Iraq's long war with Iran. A joint American-Iraqi investigation of the accident has been proposed.

Describing the ship's damage, the navy told AP the first missile punched a hole but failed to detonate. The second missile exploded and touched off an inferno.

The source said the first missile, a French-built Exocet missile, entered the vessel near the ceiling of one deck. It tore a gaping tunnel through the portside then hit the inside of the starboard hull, punching a small hole there.

The second missile also entered the frigate, although no entry hole has been found and it is unclear where it first struck the vessel, the source said.

The missile barreled down into a small, confined area where it exploded, causing tremendous damage because the space was limited, he said.

In his press conference on Sunday, Sen. Sasser said there would be no cover up by the American navy.

Mr. Sasser said the navy wanted to find out the facts of the case.

"(There will be) no cover up," he said.

"The navy wants to get to the bottom of it and find out what happened so they can take steps to make sure it does not happen again because the navy continues to operate the same type of vessel," he added.

Art of calligraphy is 'most symbolic expression of the Islamic spirit'

By Dr. Shaukat Mahmood

LAHORE — A number of traditions have come down to us which not only eulogise good writing but also encourage its practice. One such tradition says, "He who writes beautifully in the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate obtains innumerable blessings." Such traditions certainly encouraged the followers of Islam to learn and practise calligraphy for it was not only seen as a symbol of merit but also as a key to subsistence.

"Your duty is to (acquire) good writing for it is the key to your subsistence" (quoted by Qadi Ahmad Ibn Mir Munshi Al Husaini). In the absence of figurative art calligraphy thus became the most symbolic expression of the Islamic spirit.

The Koran itself emphasises several times the importance of writing. In this way the calligraphers and the schools of writing which were set up at important places were spurred on to new discoveries of styles and forms of writing, not only for the Koran which remained the focus for every type of calligraphic improvement, but also for epigraphic writing and artistic objects and items of everyday use. Very soon after Islam had come into being, attention was directed toward fostering writing as an art; and the innumerable variety of scripts, with straight lines, curves and con-

volutions in lavish abundance of forms, created by the Islamic world after the seventh century, was, perhaps, never equalled in any other system of writing. From this magnificent development two major scripts derived. The first was kufic or kufi, a somewhat stiff, angular and ponderous script with many convolutions. This was probably intended originally for inscriptions but on the less lent an impressive dignity to early parchment manuscripts of the Koran.

Side by side with this there grew up another script: this was naskh, slender, rounded and flexible. From these two developed a variety of other scripts. But there were certain scripts which were the forerunners of these two scripts, like ma'il and mashq or which flourished alongside them: but unfortunately specimens of those have not survived. It seems best therefore, to begin with the earliest known two scripts, ma'il and mashq.

Ma'il (the slanting) script flourished at Madinah in the eighth century. The script emphasised three main strokes. The first type consists of slanting strokes which rise upward from the guideline and were inclined to the right by nearly 70 degrees. A meticulous parallelism exists amongst such strokes throughout. The second type comprises horizontal strokes which mainly run along the guideline. The third type of stroke

makes the rondsaux for waw, ha, fa, qaf and so on. The only upward strokes which do not have parallelism are those of the word la. From the very appearance of a script written in this style, it is clear that the qalam was held in a uniform manner by the scribe. It was not much manoeuvred to vary the thickness of the lines. Another notable stroke is that of ya. Although nearly all of the horizontal strokes run on the guideline, ya was curved downward slightly to avoid a clash with the preceding letters or words. Its shape thus becomes very conspicuous. It is worth noting that out of the two shapes of ya i.e. one with the roundal and the other with a long horizontal stroke, the one with the long horizontal stroke was preferred and was constantly used.

Mashq: Whereas the ma'il script's main emphasis was on verticality, or obliquity to be more precise (following in this its very name) the mashq script placed its accent on horizontality. The vertical stroke seldom rose to a height of more than three dots, the dot being one stroke of the qalam to form a square point. This square dot is often used in Arabic calligraphy as a "dot module."

Words written in this technique were often extended, thus following the name of the script (mashq = extended). Nearly all the words are thus tied to the guideline. Unlike the case in ma'il script, qalam in this script

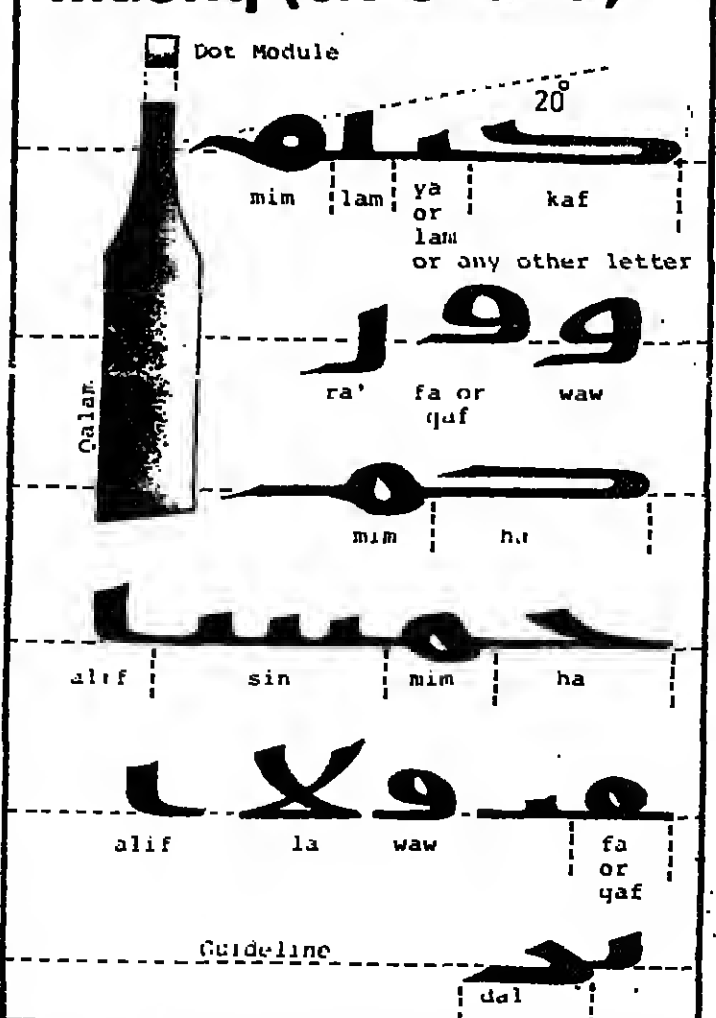
was given an oblique cut. This is evident from the vertical strokes rendered in this technique, which have an oblique finish of a nearly 20 degrees angle. Some of the features of the mashq script were very conspicuous like the medial form of the letter mim which in its body makes a small and elegant curve below the guideline. Sin has its teeth made of overlapped strokes of the qalam, which resulted in a sawtooth construction, but wherever two or three consonants came together they were very clearly defined.

The lower part of ra travelled down the guideline much more than the lower horizontal stroke of waw, which was sometimes written exactly on the guideline. Kaf was made by superposing two horizontal lines very close to each other. Ha and jim were made by a short left-to-right downward concave stroke. In letters which comprise a circle the 'eye' or inner circle was always defined clearly as in mim, qaf, waw, fa, and so on. Oblique strokes (as distinct from horizontal and vertical) only occurred in constructing jim, ha, dal, and the word la (lam + alif), which in the early Arabic alphabet was considered one letter. Alif wherever it is found isolated had a rightward curve at the bottom. This remained the salient feature of later kufic scripts. Portions of the Koran, in the mashq script perhaps dated 700-750, survive. There were no other hard and fast rules for this script. Much was left indeed to the discretion of the individual calligrapher.

Early naskh: Early naskh is found almost parallel with mashq, for an order from the Umayyad governor of Egypt, Qurrah Ibn Sharik, survives written in this script on papyrus. According to Safadi, this order is dated 709 thus making early naskh contemporary with mashq. It is interesting to note that ma'il, mashq and early naskh were current in the Hijaz when the kufic script was being developed in Kufa. Mashq and naskh continued to be used while ma'il was abandoned as soon as kufic came into use.

The most important characteristic of early naskh is its lightness, i.e. the qalam stroke is not heavy. It is thin, indeed much thinner than mashq. Whereas mashq gave the feeling of being static and rigid, early naskh had flow and smoothness in its strokes.

Mashq (extended)



Some words or letters were extended while others were condensed, thus giving fine admixture of accents as far as both verticality and horizontality are concerned.

In this script alif would rise to ten points or square dots (module) and since all other letters or words were composed in proportion to this, the whole script has an even appearance.

Once again we do not learn about any rigorous rules for this script either, except the width of the point of the qalam and the introduction of free curves which was the main formative influence on its character.

Though one may not consider these differences as a major departure from the rules of mashq script nonetheless they indicate the two directions which were soon to be followed and on the basis of which an ancient duality

of scripts can be supposed. The divarication and multiplication of scripts based on angular kufic and cursive naskh are almost numberless.

There is also a view which suggests that both early naskh and archaic kufic had their own and separate alphabets, derived in the opinion of Lenormant and Renan from the Syriac characters. Both these styles were so imperfectly attuned to Arabic that both needed amendments and rectifications.

These amendments, when ultimately introduced, brought both the alphabets closer together until they finally merged into one.

The greatest disadvantage of these alphabets was that they were applied to a language for which they had not been made. This question certainly requires more and serious investigation — Arab News, Jeddah.



A specimen of standard kufic

Jordan Times

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Israel and racism

THE Israeli government's decision to prescribe different university fees for Jews and non-Jews, i.e. Arabs, in Israel has undoubtedly reinforced our long-held assertions that the Israeli body politic is permeated with discriminatory practices. It is true that the Arabs of Israel do not serve in the Israeli armed forces and as such they cannot classify as veterans eligible for the discounted university fees. But any reading of international instruments on human rights, beginning with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and ending with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination would illustrate how blatant this recent Israeli discriminatory policy and practice against the Arabs really is.

It goes without saying that Israel is party to all these international instruments and has supported many U.N. resolutions calling on U.N. member states to combat discrimination in all its form, especially in its racial connotations. By its decision to require of the Arab students in Israel \$500 more than what is asked of their Jewish counterparts, Israel has in fact and in effect discriminated against its Arab citizens en masse. It matters little that the manifestation of this discrimination has assumed an initial economic perspective, for in the final analysis this economic distinction will be translated, transformed and added to other dimensions touching all walks of life. Israel should not feel surprised that there is an international uproar over this naked Israeli act of discrimination against its Arab citizens. The Zionist state should take notice that such policies would only lend additional credence to the assertion that Zionism is racism.

We all remember the vociferous Israeli protestations against the U.N. resolution which equated Zionism with racism. But if Israel is indeed that concerned about the "fairness" of that resolution, it should try to prove that it is determined to eradicate all remnants of discrimination in its society, rather than add to its list of shameful discrimination and repression against Arabs.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Blaming the U.S.

IT has become clear to observers that the U.S. administration intends to employ the attack on the Stark frigate as a pretext to help it impose America's hegemony on the waters of the Gulf region. This attempt, it should be said, is no less dangerous than Washington's arms sales to Iran, and is seen as a justification for America's permanent presence in the Gulf under the pretext of preventing further tragedies. But it should be said also that U.S. naval presence in the Gulf is bound to further escalate tension and turn the whole region into an arena for superpower rivalry as well as allowing the United States naval power to impose its will on Arab countries in that troubled region. The United States is trying to blow the Stark affair out of proportion with the purpose of making the Arabs completely forget the U.S. arms deals with Iran which cost the Muslim countries thousands of lives. It would be safer for Washington now to try to defuse the tension in the Gulf by seriously working with other nations towards bringing the Gulf conflict to an end. Washington should stop exploiting events in the Gulf war in a manner that would serve American objectives.

Al Dustour: Iran's sabotage

REGARDLESS of who set fire to the petroleum gas tank in the Ahmadi Port of Kuwait it is clear for all now that Kuwait has become a target for sabotage activity by Iran. All earlier fires set inside Kuwait have been traced back to Tehran and the series of explosions which plagued that Gulf country and the disturbances and the attempt on the life of the emir of Kuwait were all found to have been directly connected with Iran and Iranian agents. Iran is clearly determined to wreck Kuwait's economy and exercise blackmail policies against the Kuwaiti government to force it to give up its support for Iraq. In addition to all the sabotage activity, Iran has been keen on raiding Kuwaiti tankers and other vessels to deny Kuwait of oil revenues and so weaken the Arab Nation. Iran's acts of terrorism and sabotage have brought about the presence of superpower fleets in the Gulf region, and Tehran's insistence on pursuing war activity has escalated tension in the region to a degree that confrontation has become inevitable among various groups and parties. The fire at Ahmadi was clearly part of Iran's acts of sabotage against peace and the interests of the Arab Nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Gulf tension grows

AMERICAN officials' statements about the situation in the Gulf region, coupled with military and political moves in that area are signs of serious events that are bound to take place in the near future. The attack on the U.S. frigate Stark could be the pretext for the United States and other powers to interfere and impose their will on the countries of the region. The attack could serve also as a pretext for a major world conflict that would bring untold sufferings for the people of the Arab region. The United States could use the Stark affair as a pretext for imposing the 1979 Carter Declaration which considered the Gulf a strategic zone for the United States that ought to be protected by American power. Of course the United States will justify any intervention as a bid to ensure the continued flow of Gulf oil to the free world. As these developments continue, the Arabs are sitting idly by and failing to take concerted steps to protect their national interests. Their leaders ought to hold a summit meeting immediately and find means for meeting the new challenges.

A futuristic oil megaproject

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

ONE does not hear much these days about our long range energy strategy. In the midst of the euphoria associated with the discovery of some oil wells in the Azrak region few years ago and which promised much hope to Jordan's long term security of supply of energy, we in Jordan sighed with relief that long last our desert too will bloom with oil wells. Just as abruptly as the good news surfaced, they likewise suddenly dissipated in the sands of the desert where the oil wells began to sprout. The only other good news which continued to prop up in this vein was the persistent reports about the tremendous shale oil findings in our desert, which geologists described as abundant. The verdict of our economic policy makers however, was quick to dismiss the economic worth of these proven reserves of shale oil because the extraction of oil from our shale oil would not be economically feasible given the prevailing market prices of oil. No economist worth his salt would quarrel with this judgement and therefore, our plans to extract oil from our shale oil was put on hold.

Yet the other news about our energy strategy were permeated with doom forecasts. We were repeatedly told in no uncertain terms that our energy bill is indeed very high and has contributed most directly to our trade deficit and that there is no end in sight to our energy problem. Successive Jordanian governments have therefore chosen to ignore international oil market prices in fixing oil prices for Jordanian consumers and continued to charge them prices unrelated to market prices in a bid to fatten our energy coffers in good years when the market prices of oil are depressed in anticipation of the lean years that loom ahead of us in the horizon. It might be that our successive governments were thinking all along in this context of the fable about the grasshopper and the ant. As the story goes, the grasshopper danced away the summer while the ant built its nest and stuffed it with food. When winter came the grasshopper went hungry and froze to death while the ant remained warm and well nourished. With our energy coffers filled with the difference between the prices charged to us domestically and the prices on the world market, our governments might be thinking that

they have been acting wisely as the ant did in the grasshopper-ant fable. But to think properly and completely as the ant in this fable, our governments are requested to think beyond the present threshold of their deliberations and value judgements. They are asked to think big and much bigger than what they have demonstrated thus far. What they are invited to do is to think about alternate ways to redress our energy strategy and assure the security of supply of energy for the next decades when the temporary depressed prices of oil are projected to evaporate in the 1990s. According to the most informed sources on oil market, the full cycle on oil prices would be completed by the mid 1990s, and the "Indian summer" of low oil prices would end in the coming decade. It is projected that in the 1990s, a combination of rising world demand and falling production by non-OPEC countries would put the Gulf suppliers in control of world oil prices once again. By then, the OPEC countries, especially Saudi Arabia, will regain once again most of the cards for the future and become right back in the saddle once more.

In the late seventies, the non-Communist world needed roughly 50 million barrels of oil a day, but the non-OPEC suppliers were producing only about 20 million barrels a day with the difference being supplied by the OPEC countries. But by 1985, energy conservation and world-wide economic recession had cut effective demand to 45 million barrels a day while high prices of oil induced non-OPEC producers to supply 25 million barrels a day and the Communist countries to export 3 million barrels a day. Due to energy conservation and international recession, the demand for oil suddenly dropped to mere 17 million barrels a day corresponding to nearly half of the OPEC output six years earlier.

By the 1990s, consumption of oil in the industrialised countries is projected to increase by something like 5-8 million barrels a day from present volume and the extra oil needed will not come from the North Sea or the U.S. where production is expected to dwindle. And of course there are no more major oil discoveries in the world and geologists say that the satisfaction of the higher projected

consumption has to be met by no other than the OPEC countries. The prices of oil are accordingly projected to be between \$25-35 a barrel by the mid 1990s.

These scenarios and projections if proven correct pose serious problems for Jordan in the remaining decades of this century and beyond. The only viable way to cope with this problem is to have our successive governments think in terms of a mega-oil project as of now to deal effectively with our energy strategy in the coming decades and into the next century. Such a mega-oil project needs much time and investment to put it in action, and now is the time to draw plans for it and now is the opportune time to begin the process of its execution. The only viable project available to us is the extraction of oil from our tar-sands in addition to the completion of oil drilling in areas where conditions are favourable. The day will soon arrive when extraction of oil from our tar-sands will become not only feasible and economical but also necessary. Projects to extract oil from our sands are time consuming and the process must begin soonest.

In fact the decision to push a megaproject for oil extraction well before market prices have become favourable is a decision which will have to take into account broader economic considerations as well as social and political benefits. In view of the economic depression we find ourselves in these days, with no real prospects for brighter economic times other than achieving a plateau in our economic development, it would be worth our while to view such a megaproject for the extraction of oil from our shale oil not just in the context of energy supply security, but rather in terms of a panacea to our depressed economy. A megaproject of the size and dimension envisioned here would certainly create jobs which in turn would create spin off jobs and generate in due course new tax revenues and help redress our balance of international payments which had plunged into the red ever since we started counting. This is a new look into the future and a bold way of securing our future well into the next century. Now is the time to act because development costs are lower than they have been and certainly much lower than they would be in the future.

Israel discriminates against Arab students

By Allyn Fisher
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Arab citizens are facing mounting economic discrimination in Israel, largely because of privileges they are denied because they don't serve in the army.

The military criterion means Arabs receive only half the welfare payments given to Jews and many prestigious jobs are out of the reach for Arabs.

The most recent controversy centred on a cabinet decision this month to raise university tuition 50 per cent for anyone who had not served in the army.

Left-wing legislators called the action racist and said Israel was violating its 1948 declaration of independence, which guarantees equal rights to all ethnic groups.

Uzi Baram, secretary-general of the Labour Party, said the decision "put Israel in the same boat with South Africa," apartheid policies, racial separation and white domination of the government.

Mohammad Wattad, one of six Arabs in the 120-seat parliament, said the measure shows that "in fact in Israel, there aren't Israelis, there are Jews and there are Arabs."

But officials from the right-wing Likud Bloc deny discrimination.

"Why shouldn't the state compensate soldiers for risking their lives?" said Likud's Science Minister Gideon Patt, architect of the new fee structure.

The tuition problem is only one example of disadvantages faced by Arabs for not being drafted. In

1984, the legislature passed a discharged soldiers' bill.

The law orders high-technology factories in electronics and computers to give preference to hiring former soldiers. This excludes Arabs from many good jobs, forcing many Arab college graduates into unskilled labour.

"Arabs can find plenty of dirty work to do, but rarely a job in their field," Wattad said.

"It's not my fault that I don't serve in the army, so why should it make me a second-class citizen?" said Fathi Abu Yunis, 22, an Arab student in social work at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Another law originally gave equal child allowance grants to all Israeli families, but it was amended in 1970 to give twice as much to families whose children

would qualify for army service.

Consequently "an Arab and a Jewish construction worker, each with six kids, may both make the same salary, but the Jew would find twice as much in his bank account," Wattad said.

The grants average about 80 shekels (\$60) per child for Jewish families.

Arabs also only receive half the government-subsidised mortgages given to Jews who served in the army. Army veterans get a maximum loan of 20,000 shekels (\$13,000).

"It doesn't matter if you went to the army or not, being an Arab is enough to be refused" rental or purchase of an apartment, said Amr Makhoul, 26, a student at Haifa University.

The latest cabinet decision came after the government step-

ped in this year to set tuition fees because of growing campus budget deficits.

Tuition costs army veterans \$1,050 a year. The higher fee — \$1,550 — would apply to some Jewish immigrants among the country's 65,000 students. But it affects, across the board, the 3,700 Arabs attending universities in Israel.

Israel's six main universities, which are government-subsidised but operate autonomously, refused to go along with the two-tier system. Patt then indicated the new rates may not be enforced.

Some officials have proposed three years of national service for Arabs instead of the army, but the issue has never been put to a vote in the Knesset.

"We have an unusual consen-

sus between us: Israeli Jews have an interest in not letting Arabs serve in the army, and the Arabs don't really want to serve either," Wattad said. "But Jews take advantage of it to demand privileges from the state budget."

Jewish men and women are drafted at age 18 for a maximum three years of compulsory military duty. Men continue to do about one month a year reserve duty until age 45.

Palestinian Arabs, many of whom have close relatives in neighbouring countries such as Jordan and Syria, are not drafted.

Some 700,000 Arabs are citizens of Israel, about 15 per cent of the 5.2 million population. Another 1.4 million Arabs live under military rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

1st opposition dailies expand news diet for Chileans

By Eduardo Gallardo
The Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile — The appearance of the first two daily opposition newspapers authorised by the 13-year-old military government has reshaped the local news media, prompting even the established press to give more attention to President Augusto Pinochet's opponents.

The new dailies, La Epoca and Fortin Mapocho, "represent a very important advance toward press freedom," said Genaro Arriagada, a political scientist and specialist in media affairs who heads Chile's largest radio station, the privately operated Radio Cooperativa.

"These papers not only are providing wider news coverage themselves, but have also forced other papers to do so," Arriagada said in an interview.

La Epoca started publishing March 11 after winning government authorisation in a two-year court battle. The paper's owners include prominent members of the centrist Christian Democratic Party, the largest in the opposition, but its editors want it to be a wide-ranging and permanent publication, not just a political vehicle.

Fortin Mapocho, a more combative, leftist publication, began daily publication on April 14. It had been published for several

years as a weekly.

They are the first opposition dailies to receive government authorisation since Pinochet seized power in a bloody September 1973 coup and shut down all leftist newspapers. Those allowed to continue printing generally followed a pro-government line and are known to receive suggestions from government officials on how to handle politically sensitive stories.

Spokesmen for both La Epoca and Fortin Mapocho say that, so far, they have had no problems with the government. But Felipe Pozo, managing editor of Fortin Mapocho, said: "We do not feel we have a guarantee that nothing will happen in the future."

"We do not feel protected, under restrictive legislation the government can use against us anytime it wants," Pozo said.

The right-wing government rules under emergency powers that allow it to censor the press and shut down publications. It has temporarily closed several dissenting magazines that have published since the early 1980s.

Executive editor Milio Filippi said La Epoca sells about 65,000 copies a day, about half the circulation of major traditional papers. Fortin Mapocho's circulation, saying: "We have technical problems, and we have been unable to

reach a stable circulation."

Filippi and Pozo say their papers still have a long way to go to become a major factor in shaping public opinion. But, they say, their printing of news often ignored in the past, especially news related to opposition political activity, is prompting others to follow suit.

"So far, our main impact has been to force other papers to substantially widen their own news coverage to include many things they were simply ignoring," Pozo said. "For years, those papers had a non-competitive market. This has changed, and they are changing, too."

The appearance of La Epoca has produced a general opening in Chilean journalism, Filippi said. "We now see stories that were unthinkable to print until recently."

Several politicians have told me that reporters for other papers are now running after them for interviews," Filippi said. Others agree. The editor for a major newspaper, who asked not to be identified, said: "There has been an opening that included all media." Santiago has five established morning newspapers, and one in the afternoon.

"Our own coverage is now more extensive, especially in politics," the editor said. "We have not checked with the government. We just assumed no one

can prohibit us from printing

"What others are allowed to print." When a prominent leftist politician, Clodomiro Almeyda, challenged a government ban on his return and came back from exile last month, La Epoca carried a full-page interview with him. Other papers promptly followed suit.

When La Epoca reported the discovery in northern Chile of a mass grave believed to hold the bodies of political prisoners executed in 1973, the other dailies quickly gave ample coverage to the story.

Both Filippi and Pozo say they are optimistic about the future of their newspapers, although they acknowledge lack of advertising is a problem.

Pozo believes political considerations are one reason for the advertisers' reluctance. "There is a real fear among potential advertisers. Some have been threatened," Pozo said. "Besides, there is a total blockade of government advertising for us."

Filippi said he doesn't believe politics is an important factor in the lack of advertising for La Epoca.

"I believe, rather, that advertising agencies are waiting to see what sector of society will make up the bulk of our readers," he said.

Polls make Thatcher's majority look chancy

By Larry Thorson
The Associated Press

LONDON — In the first week of all-out election campaigning, the opposition Labour Party has edged up in the polls to a point that could deny Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's front-running Conservatives a majority in parliament.

Such an outcome could result in Britain's first coalition government since World War II, a constitutional deadlock that Queen Elizabeth II might have to resolve, or another election soon.

Political analysts say the crucial task for Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative Party is getting about 40 per cent of the votes. Below that, the Tories may not win 326 seats for an absolute majority in the 650-seat House of Commons.

The Tories average 42 per cent in six polls published in recent days, while the Socialist Labour Party is at 33 per cent, the centrist alliance of the Liberal and Social Democratic parties at 24 per cent, and others get less than 1 per cent.

"At this level, the Tories are

dangerously close to losing their majority," the Economist weekly wrote in its edition published Friday. "A two-point uniform swing from Conservative to Labour between now and polling day could lead to a hung parliament."

If no party has a majority, Britain could have government by coalition for the first time since World War II when the parties came together under Prime Minister Winston Churchill to present a united front against a foreign enemy.

Another option is a minority government, in which the largest party would try to pass legislation with the tacit support of another party or parties. Such governments often are unable to pass controversial legislation, which may be left on the shelf.

Minority governments also are vulnerable to losing a vote of confidence, which means dissolution of parliament and a new election.

The centrist alliance, not yet six years old, aims to win enough seats to deny either the Tories or Labour a majority. Holding the

balance of power, the alliance then would demand to be included in a coalition. It says its minimum price is electoral reform — to change to a system of proportional representation, so that the parties would get the same proportion of commons seats as they win in national voting.

At present the winner in each of the 650 constituencies takes a commons seat. The alliance, by coming in second or third in many constituencies in the 1983 election, won only 23 seats though it took 25.4 per cent of the national vote.

Labour won 209 seats with 27.6 per cent of the vote, and Mrs. Thatcher's Tories won a landslide 397 seats — but with just 42.4 per cent of the vote.

Mrs. Thatcher rejects suggestions that she might have to negotiate with the alliance. Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock plays down the idea of coalition government, telling voters that the only way to oust Mrs. Thatcher is to vote for his Socialist Party.

The queen, as constitutional

monarch, has mostly ceremonial functions. But she still has an important political role in appointing the prime minister. It is easy when a party has an absolute majority; the monarch simply appoints the leader of that party.

If no party has a majority, however, the queen is still obliged to designate someone to form a government. She would be advised by the privy council — itself made up mostly of leading figures from the major political parties. If two parties agree to form a majority coalition under a certain leader, the queen would appoint that person prime minister.

Lord Hailsham, who as lord chancellor is the senior judicial figure, said in a British Broadcasting Corp. interview last year that the queen retains some political discretion.

"The queen's business is to find a government which will command a majority in the House of Commons, or, if she can't, to order a dissolution," he said.

كثيرا في الجول

The African connection — black and white in Brazil

By Fritz J. Venzl
National Geographic

SALVADOR, Brazil — Here in the state of Bahia, where South America's nose points eastward into the warm South Atlantic Ocean, Africa is a mere 2,000 miles away. Africa is closer than Brazil's western Amazon regions, closer than its southern states.

In the dim geologic past, when Africa and South America were connected as one landmass, Brazil rested in the hollow of Africa, near today's Nigeria.

Beginning in the 16th century, when Portuguese explorers first touched on the Brazilian coast, Brazil and Africa were linked by a grisly commerce: For 300 years merchants delivered human cargo — African slaves — to work the cocoa and sugarcane plantations of European colonists. The racial mix has troubled Brazil ever since.

Appearances deceive

The Portuguese, who were already cohabiting with the Indians, also mingled easily with the slaves. Over the centuries, Brazilians like to say, colour lines blurred to create a new society of brown-skinned citizens. Visitors see beautiful mulattoes in Carnival costumes, and black sports stars like Pele, and consider Brazil a land of racial harmony.

The reality is more complex. A wave of European immigrants at the turn of the century gave Brazil a "whitening." Brazilians of African descent and Brazilians from Europe have hardly melted together in a giant pot, as the outside world imagines. Indeed, there is a special kind of interracial dynamics that North American visitors find exotic and a little puzzling.

The city of Salvador, also called Bahia, after the state, was the colonial capital of Brazil. It became the centre of a strong Afro-Brazilian culture that gradually



Chanting Yoruba, an ancient West African tongue, women of the fetish cult called Candomble carry brooms and flower-filled vases of water to wash the steps of a Roman Catholic church in Salvador, Brazil. Their bright beads represent gods and goddesses from nature.

spread into the rest of the nation. Most of the nation's symbols — Carnival, samba dancing, Bahian cooking — are Bahian and thus African.

The African spiritist religion of Candomble, also called Macumba in some areas of Brazil, thrives in Bahia and most of the coastal cities and has taken hold among European Brazilians as well. In the evening, drums throb from the hillside shantytowns, and

women dressed in flowing African robes sing in the tongue of the Yoruba, a people from what is now southwest Nigeria.

Culture yes, people no

But Brazil is still an elitist society, and its African heritage has created a social predicament. In many parts of Brazil, black culture is accepted, even glorified, but black people are not

Each African spirit has a parallel Catholic saint. Candomble was brought to Brazil by slaves. Now fused with Catholicism, the faith has spread across Brazil.

The Brazilian elite are almost exclusively white and European. Non-whites of all shades remain overwhelmingly poor, and people of pure Negro background, about 30 per cent of the population, remain a distinct underclass.

And therein is the social paradox of Brazil: The dominant social class is dominated culturally by the lower class. The nation's educational, economic, and governmental systems are European,

but its culture is Afro-Brazilian.

"Brazil does not like to confess its origins," says Bahian social anthropologist Ordep Serra. "Brazilians have always tried not to be what they are. We are a schizophrenic society. In Bahia a racist white man is in a sorry state, because the main expressions of Bahian identity are Negro. We act like Africans when we sing, talk, dance. When that man goes to another state, he has to

show his feelings for Bahia. What will he do? He will sing, he will dance a samba."

In the past 20 years, Brazil has been confronted with a black-awareness movement, not unlike the one that arose in the United States in the 1960s. In the forefront is a 72-year-old professor and government deputy from Rio de Janeiro, Abdias Nascimento.

"The difference between racism here and in the United States," says Nascimento, "is that in the United States it is spoken, visible. But in Brazil it is invisible and unspoken. Here the question is treated as if it didn't exist, so even the discussion is killed at the outset."

Trendy embrace

In typical Brazilian self-contradiction, the black movement has been defused by a trendy embrace of African roots among the well-to-do. But the trend has not penetrated very deeply.

"People say they're proud of their African culture," says Nascimento. "Hah! Only when it helps business do they come along with their African heritage. When the Germans want to sell Volkswagens in Nigeria, they do it through Brazil, which has its nice calling card, an African card."

In Bahia, the pre-Lenten bacchanal called Carnival has been largely usurped by the city's poor, black neighbourhoods. The original European flavour has been virtually wrung out of the festivities.

"Carnival is a social catharsis," says anthropologist Juana Elbein, who administers the Society for the Study of Black Culture in Bahia. "It is when blacks come out of their slums and take over the town. All year long they prepare, and then come out into a social space. These people were never just Carnival groups, though. They were always seeking a way to say, 'We are here, we are here!'"

New rocket shows contrasting U.S. and Soviet space fortunes

By Timothy Heritage

Reuters

ZVEZDNY GORODOK, Soviet Union — The launch of a new Soviet rocket for carrying shuttles into orbit has highlighted contrast between the generally steady progress of Moscow's space programme, and Washington's troubled efforts.

Western experts said, the

launch on May 15 of Energia, a

rocket fired by what Soviet television

called "the most powerful

engines in the world, indicated

the Soviet Union was close to

sending its first shuttle-like craft

into orbit.

With cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Alexander Laveikin orbiting earth since February in the space station Mir, the Soviet Union has gained an advantage over the United States, whose programme was set back by the Challenger shuttle disaster.

The explosion of the Challenger in January 1986 with seven astronauts on board shook faith in the U.S. space programme, and the United States' next shuttle launch has been put off until June, 1988.

James Fletcher, administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA),

said last February that he believed the United States might have lost the lead in manned space flight to the Soviet Union.

Western experts say the Soviet Union has clocked up about 12 man-years in space, twice that recorded by the Americans, whose programme has also been limited by budgetary constraints.

And in a demonstration of rising confidence since Mir was launched in February 1986, Moscow has partially lifted the veil of secrecy it once draped around its space programme.

Some launches and space manoeuvres have been shown live on

Soviet television, more open accounts of the early days of Soviet space pioneering have appeared in the press, and foreign reporters have been taken to visit mission control.

But other launches, such as those of Mir and Energia, were only announced after they occurred, and the plans to develop the shuttle are still considered secretive.

A visit by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to the Baikonur space complex in central Asia just days before the launch of Energia was not reported until he had returned to Moscow.

Nor has everything gone according to plan for the Soviet space programme. U.S. experts say two proton booster rockets failed this year, leaving navigation satellites in useless elliptical orbits. Moscow has kept silent on what happened.

The initial failure of a space research module, Kvant, to hook up with one of Mir's six docking ports last month showed that the problems of docking, the most difficult part of a space flight, have not been fully solved.

A Soviet space official told Moscow-based foreign reporters at the cosmonauts training centre outside the capital that the Soviet Union could now permanently man an orbiting station.

"When the present flight (on Mir) ends, we plan to send up another team straight away, and we suppose that the station will

work permanently," said Vladimir Shatalov, head of the training centre at Zvezdny Gorodok or "star city."

"We think we have reached a stage where work on the station can be carried out in the continual presence of men. We see it as a home where people will be able to live permanently."

By contrast, plans to launch a U.S. space station, which experts say may not be in orbit until the mid-1990s, have run into controversy over its possible military applications.

The launch of Energia, an eight-engine, 170-milln horse power rocket, was seen as an important step towards completing the first permanently manned orbiting station, of which Mir is planned to be the heart.

French astronaut Jean-Loup Chrétien, who is training at Zvezdny Gorodok for a joint Soviet-French space flight in November 1988, said the launch of Energia suggested a Soviet shuttle flight could be imminent.

"This (Energia) is apparently a rocket full of promise. This rocket has shown it is capable of putting a big shuttle into orbit," Chrétien said.

Western experts say Moscow has been working for at least nine years to develop a shuttle. Soviet officials declined to say whether they were ready to launch a shuttle-type craft into space or what the main purpose of the Energia launch was.

Stepan Bogodysb, head of the international department of the Soviet space agency Glavkosmos, said: "We have said we can use the Energia system for carrying reusable spacecraft, but we have not said we will use it for this purpose."

"We will launch such a system (as the shuttle) in our own time. If you fix a date, you have an obligation to fulfil and have to adapt your work to it," he said.

Bogodysb declined to give details about Energia's engines, but said the United States had nothing like them.

Shatalov said the engines were capable of lifting about five times the payload of the present generation of Progress space cargo vehicles, which he said could cut the time and costs needed to build and supply a permanently crewed complex.

Western experts expect Romanenko, 42, and Laveikin, 35, to remain in space for up to 290 days, breaking the endurance record of 237 days set by three Soviet cosmonauts in 1984.

Shatalov said such a long stay in space would help determine how the human body stands up to extended periods in orbit and indicate whether even longer trips could be planned.

Other Soviet projects include offering to launch the satellites of other countries on a commercial basis, and joint space flights with Syria next July and Bulgaria next year.

Anonymous tests part of Soviet fight against AIDS

By Mark J. Porubcansky

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Each Wednesday and Saturday, a few dozen Muscovites find their way past a high, white wall on the capital's northeast side, wind their way around a corner and walk into an office where they're known only by a number.

They fill out a short questionnaire, then wait in a line that leads to a closed wooden door. Beyond it lies a test to discover if they have AIDS.

The anonymous testing centre opened within a large hospital compound this spring and will be followed by a similar facility in Leningrad this summer. Medical student Alexei Mazus, who works at the Moscow centre, said it is "four hours Wednesday evening and three hours Saturday, sees about 70 people a day."

Information about the centre, including its hours and telephone number, has appeared several times in Moscow newspapers. The official press has begun to deal more openly with AIDS, and regularly carries articles giving information about how the virus is spread.

On one recent Wednesday, the line at the Moscow centre consisted of seven or eight men and women who stood quietly in the narrow hallway.

On the other side of the door, Mazus drew a blood sample from a worried-looking young man, marked it with an identifying number and put the vial in a rack.

In response to the man's complaint, Mazus quickly felt the glands in his neck before sending him on his way. The next visitor, a man of about 40 who appeared to be a labourer, was silent.

A couple of days later, the visitors can call back, give their number and find out if they are carrying the deadly disease for which there is no known cure.

It is one of the ways officials are trying to combat a situation that epidemiologist Valentin Pokrovsky categorised as "serious, alarming, but no panic." Medical

officials already are testing donor blood to ensure its purity.

Pokrovsky, newly elected head of the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences, said in an interview that the benefits of research already done in the West and stricter moral codes ensure that AIDS will not be as severe a problem in the Soviet Union as in the United States and Western Europe.

"But I have no doubt that we shall have this illness, and that it will grow from month to month and year to year," Pokrovsky said.

The anonymous testing centre opened within a large hospital compound this spring and will be followed by a similar facility in Leningrad this summer. Medical student Alexei Mazus, who works at the Moscow centre, said it is "four hours Wednesday evening and three hours Saturday, sees about 70 people a day."

He said Soviet doctors have identified 36 carriers of the AIDS virus, almost all of them foreign students. Pokrovsky estimated at least several hundred people in the Soviet Union carry the virus. Three — all students from Central Africa — have died.

More than 600 people have been tested so far at the Moscow centre, and no AIDS carriers have been found, Pokrovsky said.

There is no law on the books yet, but Pokrovsky said it probably will be necessary to begin mandatory AIDS testing for some foreigners.

"They will be foreigners who come to the Soviet Union for an extended period. For students, in any case, it will be obligatory. Naturally, it won't involve diplomats or accredited people, but for students I think we will necessarily introduce that measure," he said.

Part of the problem is how quickly the disease can spread. Doctors are investigating a chain of a dozen Soviets they have traced to a Soviet translator who

they believe picked up the virus through sexual contacts in Tanzania, where he had worked.

"From the point of view of the World Health Organisation, which registers only clinically developed AIDS, this makes only one person, who started the entire chain," Pokrovsky said. "Others, however, suffer enlarged glands or show the presence of antibodies without any clearly developed clinical signs."

"They are now under study, and among those people who inspection shows negative now, we are sure there will be infected people," he said.

Officials considered shutting down the Moscow centre soon after it opened because of the clientele, Pokrovsky said.

"When we started, we had all kinds of people with psychological disturbances — AIDS-mania — people who read the press accounts of AIDS. They didn't have any grounds to be concerned — no epidemiological grounds, no other grounds," Pokrovsky said.

Medical officials have not analysed the questionnaires collected at the centre yet, but Pokrovsky said the kind of person coming to the centre appears to have changed.

"Now we mostly have people who belong to the risk groups... promiscuous women, homosexuals, drug users," he said.

Pokrovsky said although Soviets appear to be fairly well informed about AIDS, there still are rumours it can be spread through such contact as shaking hands or kissing.

"Yesterday I heard that I had said somewhere that a great quantity of the agent is coming out of sweat. I was told I made a lecture and mentioned that in my lecture," he said.

"Well, I said something quite different. I said those with AIDS do sweat a lot, that sweating is one of its symptoms. But I never said there was agent in their sweat, so what I said was somehow transformed — those are the biggest rumours."

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China's Yang smashes way to badminton title

Compatriot Aiping retains women's crown

PEKING (R) — China's top player Yang Yang viciously destroyed the World Badminton Championship aspirations of number one seed Morten Frost with a 15-2, 13-15, 15-12 victory in the men's final Sunday night.

Earlier, Han Aiping of China successfully defended the women's title against compatriot Li Lingwei, 10-12, 11-4, 11-7.

Frost, winner of virtually every other piece of silverware worth owning except the World Crown, lost the first nine points of the opening game, recovered gallantly to win the second, but finally succumbed to the left-handed number three seed.

A series of ferocious smashes in front of a 15,000 crowd stunned Frost in the first game. He was helpless as he flapped his racket at the shuttle or watched it skid along the floor.

Frost, 29, who also lost the world final in Calgary, Canada, two years ago, drew Yang into a number of long rallies in the second game.

But he was unable to take the lead in the contest until Yang pulled wide a forehand return at 10-10.

Frost built his advantage to 13-11 but fine smashes pulled the home player level at 13-13. Then Yang made two poor retrievals at the net to lose a game which had lasted 35 minutes.

In the decider, Yang, pouncing swiftly on Frost's returns, smashed his way into a convincing lead. The Dane was seen to grab the net in despair at 5-0 and then lost a disputed line call to trail 6-0.

Visibly upset, Frost went 8-0 down but recovered to 10-5 down from 10-1 and to 13-10 down from 12-6.

But then the Dane pushed the shuttle into the net to put Yang on match point. It was saved twice by Frost before he finally gave way.

Frost, looking shattered, said later he would play in the next championships in 1989 even though before the tournament he

had thought this was probably his last chance of lifting the title. Asked whether he was very disappointed, the Dane said: "No, I don't think so. I tried all I could to win, fighting all the way."

"I'm thrilled to be world champion," said Yang. "I tried all sorts of tactics, but I lost the second game because I lost control at the net."

The 50-minute women's final was highlighted by three long rallies, a variety of drop shots and some close net play.

Han, 25, playing in her third consecutive singles final, narrowly lost the first game but strode through the second as the pale, stocky Li, seeded number one, began to wither under the pressure of constant smashing.

In the final game she managed to save match point three times before the second seed produced an impossible shot for Li to return and it was all over.

The men's doubles finals also went to China with Li Yungbo and Tian Hingyi, the top seeds, beating Malaysians Razaf and Jallani Sidek 15-2, 8-15, 15-9.



AL FAISALI VS ADDUFTEIN:

Both teams vie for the 7th Soccer Shield Association Championship in the final match slated for Monday night. At least 25,000 capacity crowd is expected to attend the match at the Amman Stadium.



The Al Faisali team (blue shirts) are seen above right with their Jordanian coach Mohammad Awwad (left). Adduftein footballers line up in the photo below opposite to their Yugoslav coach Vojta (J.T. file photos).



Trinidad's Stewart wins light heavyweight crown

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad (R) — Trinidad's Leslie Stewart pummeled American Marvin Johnson for eight rounds on Saturday and won the World Boxing Association (WBA) light heavyweight title when Johnson failed to answer the bell for the ninth round.

Stewart, 26, knocked down Johnson, 33, in the first round and the former champion, who also fell to the canvas in that round, never appeared to recover.

Stewart simply out-boxed Johnson throughout the fight. "I was connecting. I knew I was connecting. But he got to me and I was tired. I decided to go for the body, take my time, not be anxious. And that's what I did," Stewart said after the fight.

Johnson's hand Stewart the only loss of his career who he stopped him on cuts in the seventh round of their fight in Indianapolis, February 9, 1986. Johnson managed to open a cut over Stewart's left eye in the third round, but it did not appear to

faze the Trinidadian, who continued to stalk Johnson, easily avoiding the former champion's wild punches and connecting with his own.

Stewart hit Johnson with a barrage of punches in the sixth and seventh rounds which left the American almost defenceless.

Johnson stumbled his way through round eight but failed to come out of his corner for the ninth round.

The new champion was mobbed by fans who streamed onto the canopied ring from the rain-drenched seats of the outdoor national stadium.

Stewart praised the former champion, calling him "a great man, a man with great endurance." The new champion said he would be "willing to fight him again if he wants."

The crowd cheered "Hearns is next," but Stewart refused to say whether he would challenge World Boxing Council light heavyweight champion Thomas Hearns.

Indian Skimmer does it again

PARIS (R) — Sheikh Mohammad of Dubai's Indian Skimmer confirmed her exceptional promise with a brilliant victory over some of the best French Fillies in the Group One Prix Saint-Alary at Longchamp Sunday.

This was her first test against top international competition after three easy wins in England earlier this year and once again she was not extended to win by two and a half lengths from Prepaid with Grecian Urn third of the nine runners.

Indian Skimmer broke quickly and pulled hard for four furlongs before settling in third place. She joined Miroswava in the lead three furlongs out and then sprinted clear of her rivals when asked to quicken before the furlong marker.

Her jockey, American Steve Cautchen, said the grey would have been suited by a faster pace but that she was always going easily.

Archibald inspires Barcelona revival

BARCELONA, Spain (R) — Steve Archibald's match-winning performance against league leaders Real Madrid Saturday night may persuade Barcelona's English manager Terry Venables to sign the new contract he has been offered and stay in Spain.

The Scottish striker, recalled to the team midway through the season to replace struggling Welshman Mark Hughes, was the inspiration behind the 2-1 win which lifted Barcelona back into contention for the Spanish First Division title.

"I'd been psyching myself up for two weeks for this match," said Archibald, who was given a standing ovation by the 80,000 crowd when he was substituted in the final minute.

"I've still got a point to prove after being left out of the squad earlier in the season and I wanted

to show that against Real Madrid. The crowd were really great and I am pleased we won."

Archibald's brilliant and deft approach play set up several chances including the opening for English striker Gary Lineker's 19th goal of the season in the first half when Barcelona swept into a 2-0 lead.

Roberto Fernandez opened the scoring with a hotly disputed 21st minute penalty — Barcelona's first for eight months and only their second of the season.

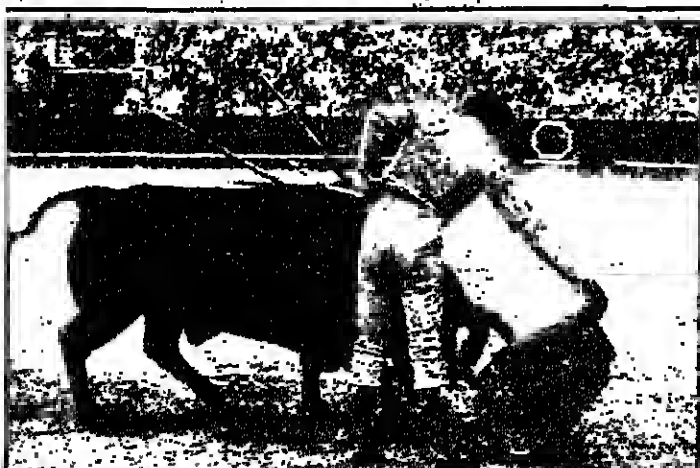
Venables, tongue in cheek, said he was surprised at the penalty awarded when Michel handled — Madrid having been awarded 15 penalties this season by contrast — but annoyed by the decision which led to Hugo Sanchez scoring his 30th goal of the season from a second half free kick.

"That goal brought them back into the game. Jose Morata's tackle was brilliant. I did not think it was a foul at all," he said.

The result reduced Madrid's lead over Barcelona to two points with four games to play and ended a week of rumour and discontent at the Nou camp on relieved and optimistic note.

Venables, who has yet to sign the new contract offered by Barcelona, said: "I will decide what to do at the end of the season. My decision will not be based on money but on the pleasure and the challenges of the football."

Venables, in whom French club Racing Paris are said to be keenly interested, has suffered defeat only once in 13 fixtures between Barcelona and their greatest rivals.



A more fortunate bullfighter teases a bull before the final kill (file photo)

Bullfighter gored in Madrid ring

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Spanish bullfighter Vicente "El Soro" Ruiz was gored by a bull and seriously injured in Madrid's Las Ventas Bullring Saturday during the eighth bullfight of the annual San Isidro fair.

El Soro, 25, suffered a 20-centimetre (eight-inch) wound in his left arm and was taken to a Madrid hospital. He was the fifth bullfighter injured in the continuing fair.

Jose Miguel "Joselito" Arroyo,

18, was gored seriously in the neck in his first bullfight of the fair May 15. The bull also broke his left collarbone.

Twenty-one-year-old Matador Rafael Camino was slightly injured in the right thigh in the second bullfight Sunday. Apprentice bullfighter Jose Luis Ramos was seriously gored in his left lung Monday.

Lucio Sandin, 23, suffered a minor injury to his left thigh on Thursday.

Liedholm reported as accepting Roma offer

ROME (R) — Nils Liedholm, the Swede who took A.C. Milan to the Italian League championship in 1979, has decided to manage Roma for the third time in his career, the sports newspaper Corriere dello Sport reported Sunday.

It quoted Liedholm, 64, as saying he had accepted an offer from Roma President Dino Viola, who has been looking for a new manager since Swede Sven-Goran Eriksson resigned this month after three years with the club.

Viola said last Tuesday that Liedholm had asked for seven days to consider his future.

Liedholm's departure from Milan will end a link with the club that has included 12 years as a player from 1949 to 1961 and seven years as manager. He was made technical manager in March in a move that took him off the bench for the last five weeks of the Italian League season.

Liedholm's return to Roma, which he was already trained twice, is part of Viola's plans to revitalise the club's fortunes after a disappointing season in which they just failed to qualify for the UEFA Cup competition.

Evert confident despite year of change

PARIS (AP) — Steady, consistent, graceful, ice cool under the most intense pressure.

That's how most fans looked at Chris Evert as she created her own era in women's tennis.

But some things suddenly are different for the woman who pioneered the double-fisted backhand that challenged conventional styles of play but was so effective.

A year after she won the most recent of her 17 Grand Slam singles titles, a divorce, a name change and the first serious injury of her career have radically altered Evert's life. She finds herself fighting to stay among the world's top three women's players as she prepares to defend her record seventh title at the French Open, beginning Monday at Roland Garros.

"I feel my frame of mind is good," said the 32-year-old American, who took five months off to rest her knee. "The last couple of years were tough and distracting at times. Even though I'm now ranked third, I'm playing well and intend to use it to my benefit."

"The more I play, the better I



Chris Evert

play." Those close to her say she has shown typical dedication in overcoming her personal and physical setbacks.

"Right now, she's as eager and enthusiastic as I've known her," said Dennis Ralston, Evert's coach for seven years.

Last month, Evert divorced her husband, British tennis player John Lloyd, ending their eight-year marriage on the grounds of irreconcilable differences. She also dropped Lloyd's name

from hers. She reverted to the Christine Marie Evert that marked her explosive entrance into World tennis more than a decade before, when she won the French Open and Wimbledon as a 19-year-old.

Within 10 days of the brief divorce court appearance in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, she was a champion again, beating Hana Mandlikova and Martina Navratilova on her way to the Virginia Slims of Houston Title.

It was the first time she had beaten Navratilova since the final of Paris last June, and in her next tournament, in Largo, Florida, Evert whipped Kate Gompert in the championship match of the Eckert Open to edge Mandlikova for the number 3 place in the world.

The divorce, Evert said, may have been partially responsible for her sudden surge of form. "It had been a dark cloud over our heads for a couple of years. It didn't work but at least we gave it our best effort, and we both knew it," she said. "Maybe that's the reason I've been playing better recently."

S. Korean boxer wins bantamweight title

MORIGUCHI, Japan (AP) — South Korean challenger Park Chang-Yunng stopped Takuya Murguruma of Japan in the 11th round Sunday to win the World Boxing Association (WBA) bantamweight title.

American referee Larry Rozadilla stopped the fight at 1:26 of the 11th round of the scheduled 15-round bout.

Murguruma had been bleeding from the nose since the seventh round, and Park had been bleeding from his ear since the eighth.

There was a fierce exchange of blows from the opening gong between Murguruma, who was making his first defence after capturing the vacant title by knocking out Panama's Azael Moran in the fifth round March 29, and Park, top-ranked contender in the WBA and the World Boxing Council (WBC).

The two fought almost evenly through the sixth round. Butted by Park, Murguruma fell to the

canvas in the third round, and Rozadilla stopped the fight briefly.

Apparently unaffected, Murguruma cornered Park with a series of left hooks in the fourth round.

From the seventh round on, Park fought more aggressively with combinations to the body and the swollen face of Murguruma, who appeared to be tiring.

Park continued to unleash effective and powerful combinations and often cornered the Japanese before the referee stopped the fight.

Park told reporters, "I want to take a good sleep for two or three days."

Both Park and Murguruma weighed in at 118 pounds (53.5 kilograms).

The victory improved Park's record to 25 victories against three defeats with two draws. Murguruma is now 25-2-1.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Flying tyre kills one

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A Wisconsin man died Sunday after being struck in the head by a flying tyre during the Indianapolis 500, officials at Methodist Hospital reported. Lyle Kurtenbach, 41, died at 1746 GMT Sunday, less than half an hour after being airlifted from the Indianapolis motor speedway, hospital officials said. Kurtenbach was sitting in the stands when he apparently was hit by a tyre from Tony Bettenhausen's 1986 March-Cosworth, said Dr. Brent Furber, an emergency medicine physician at the speedway's Hanna Medical Centre.

Man killed in motorcycling competition

MONZA, Italy (AP) — A 23-year-old man was killed Sunday during competition at the Grand Prix of the nations motorcycling race in this northern Italian city, an Italian news agency reported. Mauro Ceccoli, of Genoa, Italy, spun out on a curve at the Monza autodrome and was killed on impact, according to a dispatch from the news agency ANSA. No other details were immediately available.

U.S. climber reaches Makalu I summit

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — One more member of a climbing team from the United States has reached the summit of the 8,463-metre (27,758-foot) Mount Makalu I, the world's fifth tallest peak, Nepal's tourism ministry announced Sunday. Quoting a report from the team's base camp, the ministry said Gary Neptune, 38, of Colorado reached the top on May 16 along with two Nepalese guides — Dawa Nuru, 27, and Motilal Gurung, 36. They followed the same route along the northeast ridge taken by three other members of the team — two Americans and a Sherpa guide — when they climbed to the top on May 12.

Torino Calcio beats Senegal 3 to 1

SAPPORO, Japan (AP) — Defender Giancarlo Corradini scored once and assisted once as Torino Calcio of Italy beat Africa's Senegal national team 3-1 Sunday in the opening match of the 1987 Kirin Cup Soccer Tournament. In the day's other game, before 21,000 spectators at the National Stadium in Tokyo, Brazil's Fluminense and the Japanese national team fought to a 0-0 draw. The Italian team went ahead when Corradini scored with a header after receiving a free kick by Antonio Sabato at 30 minutes of the first half before 4,000 spectators at the Maruyama Sports Stadium in Sapporo, on Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island.

Bayern keep lead in W. German tourney

BONN (R) — Bayern Munich have maintained their six-point lead at the top of the West German League with a 3-0 win over lowly Waldhof Mannheim. Lothar Matthaus, back to full fitness ahead of Wednesday's European Cup final against Porto of Portugal, set up goals for Roland Wohlfahrt and Hans Pflugler in the 35th and 58th minutes. The midfielder, sidelined for the last 10 days, then notched up the Bavarians' third with a penalty, his 11th goal this season.

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Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batshan

AMMAN — Last week the U.S. dollar opened weaker and stayed in a very narrow trading range. Dealers were waiting for Friday's American economic figures to enter the market.

On Friday the figures appeared to be neutral for the dollar. Hence the dealers covered their short positions taken from the beginning of the week. This short covering took the dollar a bit higher.

The dollar traded in a very narrow range of 0.331-0.335 fils against the Jordanian dinar. Charts still indicate that the dollar could move a little bit lower this week. The expected dollar range for this week is 0.328-0.335 fils.

The pound sterling gained some strength against the dollar and the Deutschmark because of the uncertainty in the currency market. The pound sterling traded between 0.5575-0.5630 fils.

The D.M.S.F. moved in a very narrow range. The D.M. traded between 0.185-0.190 fils and the S.F. between 0.221-0.228 fils. The Lebanese lira

(L.L.) moved still lower against the dollar because of the bad political and military situation in Lebanon. It traded between (375-362) L.L./JD.

The Syrian lira traded between (92-85) S.L./JD and the Kuwaiti dinar between JD 1.220 to JD 1.227. The Egyptian pound traded between 0.160-0.170 fils and the Iraqi dinar between 26.0-25.0 fils.

Metals traded higher at the beginning of the week but lost ground on huge profit-taking before the weekend.

Gold fell from a high of \$483 an ounce to \$462 an ounce. Silver fell from \$9.57 an ounce to \$8.10 an ounce.

Charts indicate that gold should test the \$500 an ounce level within the coming two weeks and silver should sell at \$12 an ounce during the same period.

Gold price in Amman based on the daily bulletin presented by the Jordan Jewellery Store are as follows:

Gold per gramme 21 carats JD 4.250-JD 4.100
Gold per gramme 18 carats JD 4.150-JD 4.000

Soviet official stresses need to meet consumer demand

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin number two, Mr. Yegor Ligachev, has expressed top-level concern over a failure to meet Soviet consumer demand, citing a lack of video and compact disc systems as an example, Soviet newspapers said Saturday.

Mr. Ligachev told members of the ruling Communist Party's politburo and Central Committee that consumer demand, a key area of Kremlin efforts to reform the economy, must be met immediately, according to accounts in the government daily Izvestia and the Communist Party daily Pravda.

He said Moscow was lagging behind the West in the production of video and compact disc systems, pointing out that Western countries were producing millions of video recorders while the Soviet Union was producing only thousands.

"This means a great deal from an ideological point of view, in the satisfaction of cultural and spiritual needs," Mr. Ligachev, the Kremlin's top ideologist, said. He said the politburo was con-

cerned that Soviet enterprises were failing to meet the people's demands, indicating failings in the work of ministries, party committees and various economic departments.

"This is the question of questions and, if you like, the testing ground of competition between socialism and capitalism," Mr. Ligachev said.

"There are pressing consumer demands, and they must be met today. It is a concrete problem, and it must be solved immediately," he said.

Official figures showed that the light industry sector failed to meet output targets for the production of some household appliances, televisions, radios and washing machines, in the first four months of the year.

Officials who attended the meeting included Mr. Lev Zaikov who is responsible for the economy and military industries, and Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov. Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, was not named in the reports as among those present.

Fed comes under pressure to increase interest rates

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. economy is showing alarming signs of weakness amid rapid inflation, sharply dividing economists over whether the Federal Reserve (Fed) should raise interest rates.

"The economy has not done well," said U.S. Chamber of Commerce economist, Mr. Ronald Utt.

Fresh economic data point to an economy that is growing at a slower pace than the modest 2.5 per cent rate of growth in gross national product (GNP) in 1986, Mr. Utt said.

"Even if we can squeeze out two per cent (GNP) growth we will have done well," he said. "I would not want to see interest rates rise much further," Mr. Utt added.

Higher interest rates could choke off the fragile growth and send the U.S. economy into recession which would threaten world economic growth as well, a number of economists say.

Others believe higher rates now could mean lower interest rates, particularly long-term interest rates such as mortgage rates, in the long run.

The inflation rate has been rising at a much more rapid pace than many economists and administration policy makers had anticipated.

On Friday, the government reported that the consumer price index rose by 0.4 per cent in April. It said prices have risen at an annual rate of six per cent during the first four months of the year, far above administration projections of a 3.8 per cent rise in prices this year.

Inflation fears along with continued weakness in the value of the dollar in currency markets has put pressure on the Federal Reserve Board to raise its key discount rate from the current level of 5.5 per cent.

As a result, the Fed faces the difficult choice of raising the dis-

count rate and risk putting an end to the five-year economic expansion or leaving the rate at the current level and risk undermining the financial markets' confidence in the Fed's resolve to fight inflation and defend the dollar.

A number of financial analysts have suggested that if the Fed decides to move on interest rates, it may wait until just before the leaders of the seven industrial democracies meet in Venice in early June.

The United States could use that as a signal to its key trading partners Japan and West Germany that it is willing to defend the dollar by raising rates if they in turn will take steps to boost their economies.

U.S. officials have been pressing those countries to stimulate their domestic demand for U.S. and Third World goods to help ease the huge U.S. trade deficit.

"A good time for a discount rate increase is in June before the Venice summit," said Mr. Martio Regalia, director of research and economics at the National Council of Savings Institutions.

Mr. Regalia said he believes the U.S. economy is weak, but that a rise in the key interest rate the Fed charges banks for loans is needed to calm jittery financial markets.

Long-term interest rates, including home mortgage rates, have risen sharply in recent weeks reflecting deepening worries about a rapid acceleration in inflation.

A number of economists say a discount rate rise would go a long way toward calming those inflation fears, and in the end, help bring down long term interest rates.

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volcker has acknowledged that the U.S. central bank has tightened the credit supply in an effort to strengthen the dollar and fight inflation.

Qadhafi warns of industrial collapse

LONDON (R) — Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, has said Libya's industrial base is in decline and heading for collapse unless the country cuts imports, curbs mismanagement and gives its workers more incentives.

Col. Qadhafi issued the warning at a meeting of government, parliamentary and municipal officials. Libyan television, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, screened a recording of the session Saturday night but did not say when it took place.

"The industrial base established in this country after the (1969) revolution has now started to decline," Col. Qadhafi said.

"We set up heavy and light industries... but without any use. They have not satisfied consumption, have not developed forward, have not mastered their industry and have not provided goods at low prices," he added.

"Industry in this country will

consumer goods and machinery.

Citing problems of mismanagement, theft and absenteeism at the factories, Col. Qadhafi said that at one plant, making medical goods, the workers sold off its raw materials, bringing production to a halt. Those responsible would be referred to a revolutionary court, he declared.

"There is no committed work force in factories," he continued. "Today there may be 500 workers in a factory. Tomorrow 400, the day after 300 and then 200 — why do they come and go?"

The Libyan leader said heavy industry — Petrochemicals, steel and chemical products — should be based primarily on a cheap foreign labour force. "We will bring cheap workers from all over the world, cheap technical labour from anywhere in the world, and they will work for the secretariat responsible for heavy industries."

Medium industries, "which ev-

ery party has failed to manage," should be collectively owned, and light industries should be partnerships "of five, 10 or 20 people together — a family or a single person."

Col. Qadhafi said agriculture, a prime target for past criticism by Libya's economic planners, must be structured to increase crop exports and cut down imports. Where produce was being imported — sugar, cotton and tea, for example — the country had to start growing these crops, he said.

A 1986 budget, published but never approved by the General People's Congress (parliament) estimated Libya's spending and revenue at \$3.06 billion.

But diplomats in Tripoli said towards the end of last year that the budget had apparently been abandoned, following the sudden drop in oil prices, and that spending had been slashed to meet revenue.

Banks struggle with Third World debts

LONDON (R) — No matter how banks change the way they keep their books, the crisis over the \$1.00 trillion owed by the Third World will not go away, economists say.

Even Citicorp, the biggest U.S. bank, acknowledged that some Third World loans may never be repaid when it set aside \$3 billion from its profits against possible bad debts last week.

European bankers, who have been doing the same thing but less dramatically than Citicorp, say making provisions of that sort does not mean the debt does not have to be repaid.

Third World debtors, desperate for cash to pay for imports and prevent economic collapse, are still pressing for their creditors to ease their repayment demands.

Bankers and Western government officials fear a world-wide recession would follow any serious default of Third World debt.

The way the debt crisis is solved, if a solution is found, will affect how well Zairean copper miners or Sudanese herdsmen eat and whether their children are likely to have a better life.

The answer could mean riots, or tanks, in the streets of Third World cities. Some futurologists said it might even cause bread queues in the streets of industrial countries.

Economists say that in the de-

bate over what to do, actions such as Citicorp's may boost banks' bargaining position, showing they are tough enough to accept losses if blackmailed for too many concessions.

Two days after Citicorp acted on Tuesday, Brazil, the Third World's biggest debtor owing \$110 billion, began pressing for a 90-day extension on \$14.5 billion of debt.

Philippine Finance Secretary Jaime Ongpin said Citicorp's action was bold "but it will have no uniform impact on the debt crisis and the international banking system."

Bankers say setting aside reserves does not imply forgiveness of debt, which is something they continue to resist.

"You cannot start with a clean sheet," said one London banker, who has advised several African countries. "If the debt is forgiven, the banks will never lend money (to the Third World) again."

Repayment of billions of dollars of Third World debt continues to be postponed through rescheduling agreements.

For the desperately poor nations of sub-Saharan Africa, the agreement by the same governments to reschedule some of Zaire's \$5 billion debt over a longer-than-usual term could promise an easing of pressure to repay.

frighten many economists.

In take, for example, the \$100 billion owed by Mexico out of the world banking system would cause the world economy to contract severely, economists and bankers say.

It was a threatened Mexican default that in 1982 turned a debt problem into a crisis and led some to see worrying similarities to the world economy before the 1930s depression.

With a default, the billions of dollars loaned by banks in the flush days of the 1970s, when profits from Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) oil producers were pouring into their coffers, would vanish.

Some of that money went to buy new equipment and factories in the Third World but in countries such as Brazil and the Philippines more was used to buy oil that has long since been burned.

In the case of Mexico and Nigeria, both big oil producers, much of the money went on other raw materials needed just to keep their economies going.

In few cases much was left over to spend on investments that bring a country out of poverty.

That problem, with net new lending to non-OPEC developing countries at a mere \$100 million last year, is unlikely to be solved soon, economists say.

Zaire gets breathing space for reforms

ABIDJAN (R) — President Mobutu Sese Seko's six-month break with Western financial backers has won Zaire a much-needed breathing space for economic reform, diplomatic analysts in West Africa said Sunday.

Tough talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and donor nations won for Zaire a landmark agreement which allows the government, hard-hit by slumping copper prices, to delay repaying debt due this year for up to 15 years.

It is the first arrangement of its kind since the Paris Club of Western creditor governments agreed in principle last month to easier repayment terms for impoverished sub-Saharan Africa.

Zaire also won IMF approval for loans of \$387 million and pledges of \$1.48 billion aid over the next two years from donor nations.

Last October President Mobutu Sese Seko surprised the financial community by announcing he would limit foreign debt repayments to 10 per cent of Zaire's export earnings.

President Mobutu had, until then, been considered a star pupil of the IMF. But his country had become a net exporter of capital, with payments on its \$5 billion debt swallowing more than 20 per cent of export earnings.

In making the break, Zaire said IMF policies were strangling the economy, investment and development was impossible and an unacceptable social cost was being imposed on Zaire's people.

Zaire's example has been followed by Zambia, another struggling African copper producer.

Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda marked May Day this year by rejecting the IMF's free-enterprise, floating-currency, expensive-food doctrines and imposing a virtual moratorium on payment of his country's debts.

Commenting on Zaire's agreement, a Western diplomat said Mobutu to break with its main political and financial backers for good.

"The breathing space given by his creditors is a golden opportunity for Mobutu to prove he is genuine in his call for greater financial discipline and better management of the economy."

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MAY 25, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is a beautiful time to communicate your desires and practical wishes to other persons. You are also able to solve whatever financial problems are facing you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Do whatever will make your property more valuable and charming. Contact an influential person now.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get out to the beauty or barber shop and improve your appearance. Know that your ideas carry weight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Show more affection for the one you love and give this person a lovely gift that will be cherished.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Favors can be exchanged with one you admire and later you can be with a group of congenials.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Be alert to a fine opportunity to advance and quickly seize it. Then handle some practical public affair.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You may get a letter from some far away, and you will appreciate it. A trip is in your future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Know what the one you love will appreciate the most and try to please this person as best you can.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Praise a partner you want to be associated with for some time to come. Discuss your future plans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Show a co-worker that you like this person and much cooperation will be yours.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan an entertainment that you'll enjoy. You can take a small gamble today that could work out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are inspired today to get something that will improve your home. Tonight you can get what you want.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) If you write any letters, add an appreciative sentence or two that can bring you greater good will in the future.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY — he, or she, will be highly magnetic and attract every person he, or she, comes in contact with. Permit this child to be with lots of playmates as this will help your progeny to get along with all kinds of personalities. Teach this one to be quick at making decisions.

THE Daily Crossword by Roger Coburn

ACROSS

1 Site of Honolulu

2 Snout

3 Buffalo

4 Phrase

5 Addition

6 After me

7 One-man unit

8 Wines

9 Actor Deane

10 Prayer's last word

11 How contempt for

12 Hook line

13 Curled grasses

14 Utters

15 Blame

16 Tasteless

17 Pack down

18 Commotion

19 Trademark

20 — Aims

21 Pony

22 Wolf

23 Flow gently

24 Sweet

25 Worst

26 Drudge

27 — Camera

28 Gate ready

29 Lead up

30 Up — (carefully)

31 ready

32 Ridge

33 Pits

34 A — able

35 Angus

36 Horrible

37 And Then

38 There Were

39 Waste

40 allocate

41 Break

42 Record

43 Intense

44 perception

45 DOWN

1 Great peak

2 Parts of

3 — of

4 Turn — (sub)

5 Odorous

6 Timber wolf

7 Bowser

8 Annoying

9 Sublime

10 One: prof.

11 August

12 Shown

13 Potpourri

14 Boys

15 Round

16 Be disrespectful

17 to

18 "I — necessarily so"

19 Dorothy's pet

20 School jacket

21 Tattle

22 "Dean Yankov"

23 Culture

24 medium

25 Pass

26 Candy

27 — of

28 Type of type

29 abaz.

30 Pantywaist

31 Revealed

32 Agency

33 Falsified

34 Deflect

35 Skurber

36 Units of

37 Person, place or thing

38 Raines or

39 Logs

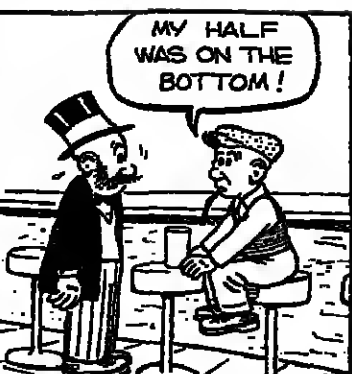
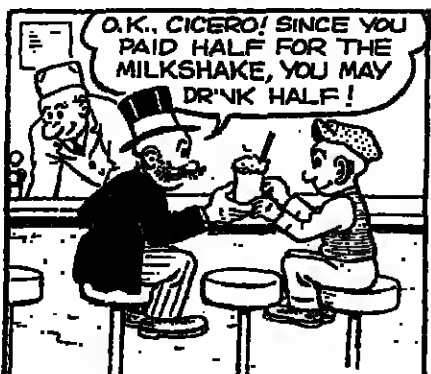
40 Ivy e.g.

41 61. fortifies city

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Got to get rid of this ham

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CRATT

RIDAC

VOCENX

BELBUB

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: O O O O O O O O O O

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: COMET KNIFE JUNIOR QUARTZ

Answer: A guy should be this when he goes on a diet — QUIET

Ousted Fijian premier refuses to join interim administration

SUVA (R) — Ousted Fijian Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra said Sunday he would boycott the interim administration set up after the military coup 10 days ago and his supporters threatened protest action.

Leaders of his former coalition government promised to stage protests until their government was reinstated.

"The purported agreement between the governor-general and those who seized power unconstitutionally is without any legal or moral basis," a statement from Dr. Bavadra and 20 of 28 members of his government said.

Dr. Bavadra said the forcible ousting of his government and the dissolution of parliament were illegal and pledged to fight for the reinstatement of his coalition.

The statement attacked Governor-General Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau for not keeping the coalition informed about his talks with

couple leader Lieutenant-Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka.

"Such failure by the governor-general ignored the views and interests of the majority of the people in Fiji and in particular of one entire community," the statement said.

"A good part of the negotiations were carried out when the majority of the elected representatives of the people were being held in custody," it said, referring to the almost six days Dr. Bavadra and his 28-strong caucus spent under house arrest.

The coalition also opposed plans to review the constitution. The statement was issued after the group met in the sugar-cane-

milling city Ba, about 250 kilometres north of Suva.

Dr. Bavadra is expected to present his response to the governor-general Monday or on Tuesday.

Ganilau offered Dr. Bavadra and his deputy places on a 19-member advisory council which includes the coup leader.

The council will manage the country before new elections under a revised constitution.

Dr. Bavadra labelled the offer "insulting" saying Saturday the council was dominated by Col. Rabuka and members of the conservative Alliance Party defeated in a general election last month. Ganilau has said the council could be enlarged and political sources said they had expected him to make room for a third member of Dr. Bavadra's coalition.

Col. Rabuka says he mounted

the coup to preempt violence by ethnic Fijians upset at Indian domination of Dr. Bavadra's government.

Leaders of the Christian Churches appealed Sunday to Fijians to help reunite the country. They condemned the coup in a newspaper statement and appealed for a return to unity and reconciliation between the country's two main communities, indigenous Fijians and Indians.

The Indians came here as sugar-cane workers in the last century and now control much of the business activity, although they had never held a majority in government before Dr. Bavadra's administration.

The Indians outnumber ethnic Fijians by 17,000 in a total population of 714,000 in the Pacific island territory. Most of the indigenous Fijians are Christian.

U.S. forces to withdraw defences if Britain's Labour wins — report

LONDON (AP) — A British newspaper said Sunday that a top secret NATO report has advised the United States to withdraw key elements of its armed forces from Britain if the socialist Labour Party wins the June 11 general election.

The opposition Labour Party has pledged to scrap Britain's nuclear weapons and send back U.S. cruise missiles if it forms the next government.

However, the latest opinion polls indicate the governing Conservative Party has a substantial lead over Labour in the election campaign.

In a front-page story, the Sunday Telegraph said the report, classified "cosmic top secret," was prepared by Gen. Bernard Rogers, NATO's supreme allied commander.

The paper said officers at NATO's supreme headquarters declined to comment on the report.

The newspaper said the report advises U.S. President Ronald Reagan "unilaterally... withdraw military personnel, aircraft and nuclear weapons from Britain within weeks of a Labour victory and to seek their redeployment either on mainland Europe or in the United States."

The Sunday Telegraph quoted the report as concluding that a Labour victory would be "the single most damaging blow to NATO since the alliance's formation."

The newspaper said the report was drawn up specifically at the request of President Reagan, who is now examining it with his top advisers.

"It is expected to form the basis of a presidential policy in the event of a Labour victory," the paper said.

The NATO report says U.S. Air Force nuclear-capable F-11 aircraft should be withdrawn from Britain as soon as possible and redeployed at American airbases in Europe, the Sunday Telegraph said.

The Holy Loch nuclear submarine base in Scotland also would be closed and its facilities transferred to the United States, and American airbases in eastern England would be handed back to the Royal Air Force within months, the paper added.

The Sunday Telegraph said the report also says an "immediate moratorium on the sharing with Britain of high-grade military intelligence by the Pentagon would be imposed."

Britain also would be obliged to relinquish its hold on many senior NATO military posts intimately involved in the command and control of the alliance's nuclear weapons, the paper quotes the report as saying.

The report also advocates the phased withdrawal from Germany of an armoured brigade at Garmisch and large amounts of weapons and equipment positioned for use by the U.S. army's 3rd Corps, the Sunday Telegraph said.

This formation may be used to support the British Army of the Rhine and other national units in the northern area in time of war and is normally based in the United States.

"This 'token' United States troop withdrawal is intended to register American unwillingness to accept a Labour government's defence policy without it affecting the United States commitment to Europe," the paper said.

The 96 ground-launched cruise missiles deployed in Britain would, depending on the state of U.S.-Soviet negotiations, be either moved into mainland Europe or unilaterally withdrawn to the United States, the paper said.

Canada to consult NATO prior to dropping commitment to Norway

QUEBEC (AP) — Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said a Canadian plan to abandon a commitment to send 5,000 troops to defend Norway in wartime would be made "in complete consultation with our allies."

"Our proposals will, I think, find the widest possible favour in NATO," Mr. Mulroney told the spring session of the 16-member North Atlantic assembly.

But Thor Knudsen, leader of the Norwegian delegation, said his country "strongly deplored" Canada's intent and hoped it would reconsider.

He called the Canadian plan "the wrong decision at the wrong time."

Mr. Knudsen told delegates it would not be easy to find a replacement defender if Canada abandons its role in Norway.

It was wrong, he added, "to send the signal to the East that NATO is reducing its defence of

the northern flank at a time when the Soviet military buildup, particularly in the naval field in the northern area, has reached a maximum."

But the head of the Canadian delegation, Robert Hicks, responded that "we are not abandoning Norway."

He said Canada would not give up its 19-year-old commitment to fly in a 5,000-strong brigade to northern Norway "until we have found another ally to take it over — perhaps as a trade."

The problem arose because Norway, sensitively close to the Soviet Union, refuses to have foreign troops stationed on its soil in peacetime.

Mr. Hicks said a 1,000-member Canadian battalion within NATO's mobile force earmarked for Norway will be retained. Canada also will beef up its forces in West Germany.

Gorbachev arrives in Romania today

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania, the Kremlin's most recalcitrant Warsaw Pact ally, appears to be preparing a distinctly low-key welcome for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who arrives on an official visit Monday.

In contrast to the reception afforded Mr. Gorbachev in other Eastern European capitals in the last two years, there are no public portraits of the Kremlin leader in Bucharest so far, no Soviet flags and no banners hailing Soviet-Romanian friendship.

Women are planting flower beds and workers are sprucing up roads in central Bucharest but the busiest activity is further south where a new Communist Party headquarters and several huge apartment buildings for senior Romanian officials are under construction.

Donovan trial deliberations begin anew in New York

NEW YORK (R) — The judge in the fraud trial of former U.S. Labour Secretary Raymond Donovan has ordered the jury to begin its deliberations anew with a substitute for a juror removed Saturday, despite bitter defence protests.

Defence attorneys said Bronx Supreme Court Judge John Collins had deceived them by not declaring a mistrial after six of the eight defendants refused to consent to the substitution.

Defence attorneys said they believed his decision gave them good grounds for appeals of the eight-month-old case if the defendants are convicted.

The alternative juror replaced a woman who was removed after a bizarre outburst in which she asked to see a priest, recited Biblical verse, locked herself in a toilet and was questioned by a psychiatrist.

The jury at that point had deliberated for about five hours.

Sri Lanka braces for final Jaffna assault

COLOMBO (R) — Thousands of Sri Lankan troops prepared Sunday to attack Jaffna city, the main stronghold of Tamil separatists, amid urgent Indian appeals for peace.

"The military has been given the go-ahead for a frontal attack on Jaffna," a government spokesman said.

He said troops who began an offensive in Jaffna peninsula four days ago would storm the city of 150,000 Tamils, controlled by guerrillas for two years, as ships patrolled the coast to stop rebels bringing arms from south India.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi urged Colombo on Friday not to attack because of likely civilian casualties, an Indian diplomat here said. Mr. Gandhi made the appeal to Sri Lanka's envoy in New Delhi, Bernard Tillakaratne.

India, which has a large Tamil population, has been trying for years to mediate between Colombo and guerrillas fighting for a separate state in the north and east of the island.

The conflict, grounded in Tamil claims of discrimination by the country's Sinhalese majority, has killed 6,000 people in the past four years.

The government spokesman, who declined to be identified, said the attack of Jaffna would begin after more troops and fighter aircraft were brought into position around the city.

Kim leaves Peking for provincial tour

PEKING (R) — North Korea's President Kim Il-Sung left the Chinese capital Sunday after completing talks which Western diplomats said appeared to have revived some of the traditional warmth of the Peking-Pyongyang relationship.

China's President Li Xianmian and several hundred North Korean students saw Mr. Kim off at Peking railway station. He will be taken on a short provincial tour before returning home.

The official New China News Agency said Mr. Kim, 75, and China's Acting Communist Party Chief Zhao Ziyang Saturday held talks and "shared unanimous views on wide-ranging issues."

Indian police kill 11 in sectarian violence

NEW DELHI (R) — Police shot dead at least 11 people and extended a curfew in Meerut to quell Hindu-Muslim riots which have claimed 83 lives in the north Indian city there and the capital Delhi, officials said Sunday.

Police and government officials said at least 12 people were killed in separate clashes late Saturday in Meerut, where the army has been sent in to stop some of the bloodiest communal fighting since the India-Pakistan partition riots of 1947.

Meerut residents told Reuters police shot dead 11 Muslims and injured at least 20 Saturday night in the city's Malviya district.

Police said they fired at rioters who shot at them during a house-to-house search for weapons. Several of the wounded were in serious condition.

Residents said the mainly-Hindu provincial armed constabulary fired indiscriminately into the crowd.

A local newspaper reporter told Reuters the crowd stoned police who tried to pull down the loudspeaker of a mosque.

Police have torn down loudspeakers from many mosques and temples, saying religious leaders use them to incite violence.

Authorities extended the curfew to two-thirds of Meerut and troops and police scoured the city, seizing arms, daggers, drums of acid, and petrol used to make bombs.

The army stood by in Delhi where thousands of paramilitary police imposed an uneasy peace on the curfew-bound old city.

"The situation is very tense but under control," a police spokesman said after the curfew was relaxed for an hour Sunday morning to allow residents to buy food.

Eight people have been killed in riots and police firing in the crowded walled city in the past week.

Violence flared anew when thousands poured out of Delhi's Jama Masjid, India's biggest mosque, after Friday prayers and went on a rampage.

Authorities posted marksmen on rooftops along the city's narrow alleys after snipers tried to pick off police Saturday. More than 300 people have been arrested.

Police reported continued clashes despite the curfew in Meerut where the official toll is put at 75 dead and 130 injured since Tuesday. Some 2,240 people have been detained in the city, 80 kilometres north-east of Delhi.

Hundreds of burnt-out shops, overturned cars and rubble-strewn streets point to the savagery of the fighting between bands of Hindus and Muslims.

Some Muslim residents complained of brutality by police searching homes and rounding up male occupants.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi assured Muslims at a meeting in Delhi Saturday of firm action to reduce religious tension.

Authorities barred eight Muslim leaders, including the controversial Imam of Jama Masjid, from entering Meerut Saturday.

Top S. Korean policemen linked to death cover-up

SEOUL (R) — Five senior South Korean police officers are being questioned over allegations of a cover-up in the case of a 21-year-old student who died under interrogation, prosecutors said Sunday.

The five include one of the country's highest-ranking officers, Superintendent-General Park Cho-Won.

They are suspected of plotting to misrepresent the number of policemen involved in the killing, prosecutors told reporters.

Thousands of students and dissidents fought running battles with riot police in Seoul Saturday in anti-government protests fuelled by new revelations in the case.

Prosecutors announced last Wednesday that three more policemen had been arrested in connection with the death in January of Park Chong-Chol.

Two members of an elite anti-Communist police squad were charged with murder and the interior minister and national police chief were sacked shortly

after Park's death.

Prosecutors told reporters Sunday they had been tipped off that senior officers were involved in the cover-up by relatives of the two policemen originally charged.

President Chun Doo Hwan ordered a new investigation into the case Saturday.

"If any fact about this incident has been distorted or concealed, this can never be tolerated as it would greatly undermine public confidence in the police," a presidential spokesman quoted Mr. Chun as saying.

The prosecutors' office will announce the results of the fresh investigation in a few days, officials told reporters Sunday.

Some local newspapers reported that the ruling Democratic Justice Party was considering a cabinet reshuffle in a bid to placate public anger over the case.

The opposition Reunification Democratic Party has urged Mr. Chun's cabinet to resign en masse to take responsibility for the "concerted, fabricated drama."

Father kills son for refusing dowry

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — A man whipped his 20-year-old son to death the day after his wedding because the youth refused to take a dowry offered by the bride's parents, a newspaper reported Sunday. Nurul Islam died in his home on May 4 after his father prevented others from rescuing him, the independent Bengali-language newspaper Ittefaq said. It said the father explained his son's death as a suicide. Bangladesh has had many cases of brides being killed or tortured for not providing a dowry. But the Ittefaq said Islam was the first man known to be killed for turning down a dowry. It said his father, a poor peasant, had arranged the dowry in the form of money and gold ornaments from the 16-year-old bride's affluent family in the village of Chital from the Rangpur district, 334 kilometres north of Dhaka. When the son refused the dowry, the father started lashing him with a cane whip, the paper said. Dowries are quite common in Bangladesh despite a ban on the practice. At least 50 women were killed last year for lacking a dowry, social workers estimate.

Nancy Reagan speaks against drug abuse

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nancy Reagan has told a class of graduating physicians there is no excuse for drug abuse in the medical profession, and she asked them to watch for drug problems among their patients and colleagues. "You can't buy peace with a pill or a powder," the first lady said in a speech at Georgetown University's commencement exercises. "You have a higher obligation because you are the best and the brightest. You are held more accountable because of the profession you've chosen." Mrs. Reagan said. "To put it plainly, doctors should know better and their patients deserve better." The first lady addressed the School of Medicine graduates at the John F. Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts. She was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters for her work in promoting health and battling disease through her anti-drug abuse campaign. Outside the Kennedy Centre, about 20 chanting demonstrators marched with signs reading, "If Nancy doesn't do dope, then why did she marry one?" and "Just say no to Ronnie's contra cocaine." They protested what they called the hypocrisy of Mrs. Reagan's anti-drug campaign and her husband's support of the Nicaraguan contra rebels, who have been accused of smuggling cocaine.

Turkish educators permit headscarf

ANKARA (R) — Turkish universities have bowed to pressure from religious-conservative women students and decided to reverse a ban on wearing the Muslim headscarf on campus, newspapers reported Sunday. They said the decision was taken Saturday at a meeting of university rectors. The reimposition of the ban last December, on the grounds that the constitution requires separation of state and religion and that universities are state institutions, sparked widespread protests. The left-leaning Cumhuriyet said it was decided students at theological faculties could dress as they wished while others would be permitted to cover their hair "in a modern manner." Students say dozens of women have stayed away from classes because they were not permitted to cover their heads. Many others had given in, reluctantly to the restriction.

Pope prays at tomb of Padre Pio

SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO, Italy (AP) — Pope John Paul II prayed at the tomb of Padre Pio, the late Franciscan priest who died for 50 years from wounds like those inflicted on Christ during the crucifixion. The Pontiff, who began a three-day visit to Italy's south eastern Apulia region, knelt for one minute with his right hand on the marble tomb of Padre Pio in the crypt of the sanctuary of the Madonna Delle Grazie. It was seen as a papal endorsement for beatification of the Capuchin priest, who died here in 1968 at the age of 80. The beatification process, a step towards possible sainthood, has been underway since 1983. "We are waiting for the infallible judgment of the church (for Padre Pio)," said Flavio Carrara, the superior general of the Capuchin Order, one of four branches of the Franciscans. The Pope also visited the hospital that Padre Pio founded in 1956, the House of the Relief of Suffering. The hospital has grown into one of Italy's largest and most modern, with 900 beds and a staff of 1,300.

Canoe ends two-year Pacific voyage

HONOLULU (AP) — A replica of an ancient sailing canoe on Saturday ended a two-year, 13,000-mile (21,000-kilometre) journey that its navigator said proved ancient Polynesians could have crossed the Pacific using only celestial navigation. Amid traditional Hawaiian religious ceremonies, the crew of the Hokule'a came ashore at Kuaioa Regional Park in windward Oahu, an area considered sacred by the early Hawaiians and where the voyage began July 14, 1985. A light rain, considered a blessing by Hawaiians, fell as the canoe approached the shore. It was surrounded by hundreds of motorboats, sailboats and outrigger canoes. The 60-foot (18-metre) canoe, with its crew of 14 people, travelled to Tahiti, the Cook Islands, New Zealand, Tonga, Samoa, and the Tuamotu Islands without using modern navigational instruments, relying on stars to guide the double-hulled craft. The voyage proved that the Polynesians could have sailed east, in the face of prevailing trade winds, said navigator Nainoa Thompson. The experiment was undertaken to show that ancient Polynesians could have sailed with precision across vast expanses of the Pacific hundreds of years before Christopher Columbus ventured across the Atlantic Ocean, organisers said.

Evangelists account for \$80m of missing funds

FORT MILL, South Carolina (AP) — PTL ministry officials said Friday they have accounted for \$80 million out of \$92 million in missing donations and called on former Chairman Jim Bakker to return a hefty bonus he received in the first three months of 1987. "The plane that was in a dive, we've pulled up and gotten it stabilised," said chief executive officer Jerry Nims. The ministry also announced it had raised \$3.5 million in one week and was hoping to raise an additional \$500,000 with an auction Saturday of items including a 7-foot bronze griffin, a 1927 Franklin car and an environmental shower that includes a sauna. Nims said Bakker, and his wife got \$480,000 during the first 10 days of February alone. Hefty bonuses also went to former PTL President Richard Dortch, aide David Taggart, and Taggart's brother, an interior decorator used by PTL.

Argentine senate passes divorce bill

BUENOS AIRES (R) — The senate has approved a bill that would legalise divorce and thus remove Argentina from the handful of countries with no provision for it. Argentina's Catholic Church has mounted an intensive campaign against the divorce bill, which now must be approved in its amended version by the Chamber of Deputies and signed by President Raul Alfonsín to become law. Argentines, some 91 per cent of whom are Catholic, have supported legal divorce by wide margins in public opinion polls despite church opposition. The senators approved the bill clause-by-clause with the support of most of the ruling Radical Party after some 20 hours of debate in 16 days.

Lenin's works found at garbage dump

BELGRADE (R) — Seventy sets of the 40-volume collected works of Vladimir Lenin, the leader of the Soviet Bolshevik Revolution, were found on a Belgrade garbage dump, the official Tanjug News Agency has said. It was unclear how the books ended up at the dump but it illustrated how books were treated in Yugoslavia, Tanjug quoted the publisher as saying. Communists Yugoslavia split with the Soviet Bloc in 1948 to embark on its own independent course, but Lenin is still revered here as a pioneer of the World Communist Revolution.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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G IS FOR GROSVENOR GAMBIT

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 10 8
♥ J 8
♦ A 8 7 5
♣ J 8 7 4

WEST
♠ Q 7 6 3 2
♥ 7 5
♦ 10 6
♣ A K 9

EAST
♠ 9 4
♥ Q 8 4
♦ Q J 10 2
♣ Q 10 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 5
♥ A K 10 8 2
♦ K Q 4
♣ 6 2

The bidding:

South West North East

2♠ Pass 2♣ Pass

3♥ Pass 2NT Pass

3♠ Pass 4♣ Pass

4♠ Pass 5♥ Pass

6♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

The rationale behind all this is that you should pull it off early in a match. The declarer would then be so demoralized that he would not

play his best for the rest of the match. Here is a simple example of what we mean.

South held back nothing in pressing on to a heart slam. In the methods his side was using, North's two no trump bid showed some values, and his five diamonds was a cue-bid promising first-round control.

Against six hearts, West led the king of clubs and, in response from an encouraging signal from his partner, continued with ace. Declarer ruffed and had a lot of work to do. Even if he could ruff his third spade in dummy, he would still have to find the queen of trumps, and the percentage play would be to finesse.

Declarer cashed the ace-king of spades and ruffed a spade with the jack. Instead of overruffing and setting the contract, East discarded a diamond! As far as declarer was concerned, that marked the queen of trumps with West. So he banged down the ace-king, only to find that he had set up East's queen for the setting trick. South's confidence was shattered for the rest of the night.

About 13 years ago, Frederick Turner published an article in "The Bridge World" describing a humorous bridge play which he dubbed the "Grosvenor Gambit." To bring it off, a defender had to make a deliberate error so egregious that declarer would refuse to believe it. As a result, the declarer would go down in a contract that could have been made thanks to the error.